# Let Dai

VOL.15 CH.1

없음
자판기
EH,
I'VE BEEN OKAY.

I WAS REALLY SHOCKED THAT YOU CALLED ME OUT OF NOWHERE. YOU'VE BEEN WELL, YEAH?
BUT... YOUR HAIR...
I ONLY CUT OFF A LITTLE. I DIDN'T REALIZE IT WAS SHORT ENOUGH FOR PEOPLE TO NOTICE IT RIGHT AWAY.
COME TO THINK OF IT, YOU JUST LET IT ALL FLOW OUT THIS ENTIRE PAST SUMMER.
...DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?

NO, NOTHING. I JUST FELT LIKE I WAS GOING CRAZY
I THOUGHT I WAS GONNA GO INSANE IF I DIDN'T HIT THE STREETS,
AHH. I STILL LOVE YOU SO MUCH.
I CAN'T STOP
JUST LOOKING AT YOUR FACE IS TOO MUCH BECAUSE IT MAKES MY HEART EXPLODE
GOOD JOB! AT LEAST THIS WAY, I GET TO SEE YOU. IT'S ALL GOOD!
YOU KNOW YOU CAN CALL ME ANY TIME, EVEN WHEN THINGS ARE ROUGH...
BUT, WHAT HAPPENED?
YOONEUN, LET'S GO HAVE A DRINK.

I WANNA DRINK UNTIL ALL THOUGHTS ARE GONE FROM MY MIND.
YOU'RE UNDERAGE, AND YOU EVEN LOOK IT. ALL THE BARTENDERS WILL KICK YOU OUT!
I MEANT FOR US TO GO GET SOME FROM THE LIQUOR STORE AND DRINK IT AT THE TRAIN TRACKS.
...DRINK OUTSIDE?
I MEAN...DO YOU THINK THAT WOULD BE OKAY? IT'S A LITTLE CHILLY.
YEAH, I'M OKAY.
GOD, THERE ARE SO MANY PORK BBQ PLACES. IT'S LIKE A MASS PIGGY GRAVE.
ACTUALLY, I CAME HERE A COUPLE OF TIMES WITH SOMEONE.
WITH HIM...

IS THERE SOMEONE THAT YOU WISH YOU WOULD JUST BUMP INTO?
BUMP INTO?
DOES IT HAVE TO BE A COINCIDENCE?
SONIA
YOU CAN CALL HIM... AND YOU CAN EVEN GO LOOK FOR HIM...
BUT YOU WISH YOU'D JUST "BUMP INTO HIM?" I MEAN, SEEING HIM AS A COINCIDENCE THAT YOU DESPERATELY WISH WOULD HAPPEN?
DOESN'T EVERYONE HAVE SOMEONE THEY THINK THAT ABOUT?
HAVE YOU ACTUALLY EVER BUMPED INTO THAT PERSON... WHEN YOU WANTED TO SEE HIM?

FOR ME, THAT WAS YOU

MY HEART DROPPED WHENEVER I SAW SOMEONE ON THE STREET WHO HAD EVEN THE SLIGHTEST RESEMBLANCE TO YOU

I ALWAYS WALKED GAZING AROUND TO SEE IF I COULD FIND YOU

THERE WERE TIMES THAT I WANDERED ABOUT THE STREETS WITHOUT AN AIM.

AND SOMETIMES.. SOMETIMES..

I SHED SO MANY TEARS

SO, THAT'S NOT A COINCIDENCE, BUT FATE.
OH, WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU OKAY?
OH...
TUK
I FORGOT TO BRING MY CELL PHONE.
DAL...
IS THERE A PHONE CALL YOU'RE WAITING FOR?
NO, NOT EXACTLY.
UGH

SHOULD WE SIT SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE?
HERE, SIT ON THIS.
IT'S OKAY. YOU'RE GONNA BE COLD.
GOB
ARE WE TOO CLOSED OFF? OH WELL...
HERE, DRINK UP.
YOU'LL TAKE A SHOT TOO?
FILL 'ER UP.
YEAH... I JUST FEEL GOOD, AND I DON'T EVEN HAVE A SPECIAL REASON TO.

TODAY, I HURT SOMEONE WHO IS GOOD TO ME AND REALLY CARES ABOUT ME.
HE'S WHAT YOU'D CALL A CATCH... I'VE GOT SOME NERVE, EH? A NOBODY LIKE ME HURTING A RICH AND HANDSOME GUY LIKE HIM.
OH, SO YOU THINK YOU DID THE RIGHT THING?
OH, NO NO.
GOOD
YO, LET'S GET OUTTA HERE. READY?
DAMN, YO! WHERE WE GONNA GO NOW?
EVERYTHING AT HOME MUST BE ALL UPSIDE DOWN AND SHIT BY NOW.
SHIT! WE AIN'T BEEN ABLE TO GO HOME OR TO SCHOOL FOR FUCKIN' DAYS!
HEY...HEY, STOP CRYIN' LIKE A LITTLE BITCH ABOUT EVERYTHING.

CRAP! I WANNA MESS SOMETHING UP REAL BAD!
1
HEY, HEY!
THE FUCKING DOUCHEBAG OVER BAG--, ISN'T HE THE GREAT SENIOR JAEHEE YOO?
WHAT?
RIGHT THERE... I ASSURE YOU WITH MY 20/20 VISION. THAT NUMBNUTS OVER THERE IS THE SENIOR.
AND HE'S GETTIN' ALL LUCKY WITH SOME GIRL.
DIPSHIT! HE'S THE ASSHOLE WHO GOT US INTO ALL THIS! I'M GONNA--!
HEY, DAI-OXIN! WHADDYA SAY WE TEAR THIS FUCKER UP?
SON OF A BITCH! HOW DARE HE BE COCKY ENOUGH TO COME INTO MY SIGHT?!

THAT'S GREAT. THAT'S GREAT TO HEAR YOU'VE GOT SOMEONE WHO REALLY CARES FOR YOU.
I HOPE HE'S A GOOD GUY.
AREN'T YOU CURIOUS TO FIND OUT WHO HE IS?
EVEN IF YOU TOLD ME, HOW WOULD I KNOW?
HE'S...
DAI'S OLDER BROTHER.

FATE IS SUCH A WEIRD THING, BUT IF I LOOK BACK NOW, IT'S ALSO REALLY SCARY.
ALL THESE FATES THAT HAVE BEEN INTERTWINED, WHETHER WE WANTED THEM OR NOT, FROM THE MOMENT YOU AND I MET... OUR FATES HAVE COME TOGETHER AGAIN
GOR D'
BOLT
OR D'
DO YOU LOVE THAT GUY?

I JUST DON'T LIKE IT! FOR SOME REASON IT MAKES ME NERVOUS.
I DON'T KNOW, WHY ARE YOU? IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU!
WHY AM I SO NERVOUS...
IF YOU DATE HIM...
BECAUSE YOU AND DAI ARE NOW TIED SO CLOSELY TOGETHER?
YOU'LL GET HURT AND DAI WILL SUFFER, TOO.

I HOPE YOU JUST SAID THAT...
OUT OF CONCERN ONLY FOR ME
BUT I GUESS YOU'RE SAYING THESE THINGS BECAUSE YOU'RE WORRIED THAT YOUR LOVE WILL BECOME UNSTABLE.
THIS IS DEFINITELY AWKWARD
THE YOONEUN WHO IS JUST LAYING HER EMOTIONS OUT THERE...
SOMETHING ABOUT ALL OF THIS FEELS REALLY AWKWARD.
THE AWKWARDNESS OF IT ALL STARTED TO CLOSE IN AROUND MY THROAT, SWIRLING AROUND ME LIKE THE OMINOUS SKY IN EDWARD MUNCH'S PAINTING, "THE SCREAM".
KOFF
ARE YOU OKAY, JAEHEE? WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU ONLY HAD A FEW DRINKS.
BARF
BARF

KOFF
BARF
BARF
DAI'S HEART, FIGHTING WILDLY AGAINST THE WORLD...
AND WHY I COULDN'T QUELL MY NAUSEA FOR ANY LONGER.

I REALIZED THAT IT HAD BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I STARTED TO HATE THE WORLD FOR NO REASON,
AND I FELT MY ANGER TOWARD EVERYTHING AROUND ME RISING UP

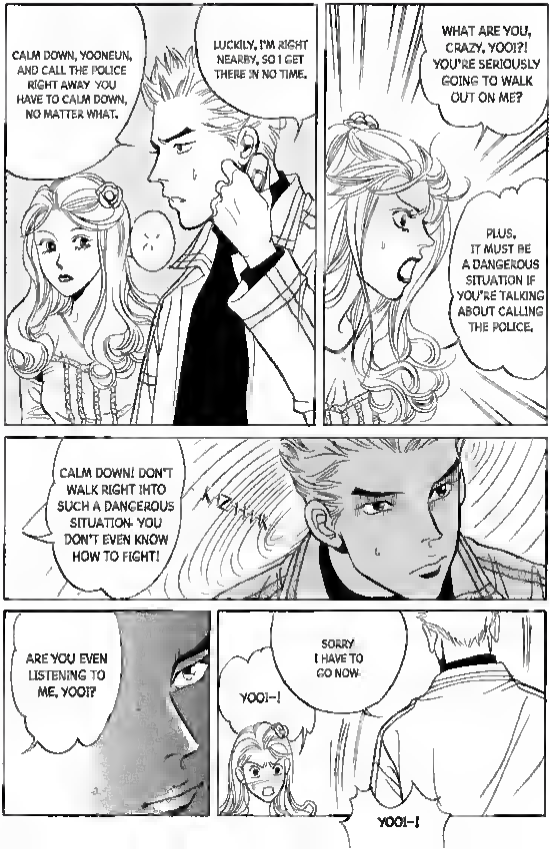
TO BE FILLED WITH BEAUTY, TO DESIRE TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT AND TO LET YOURSELF GO ALL SUCH IS NOT PERMITTED, BUT IS ACTUALLY A BLESSING!
WHY IS IT A SIN TO BE FAITHFUL TO YOUR OWN THOUGHTS AND DESIRES?

THE FACT THAT I WAS BORN...
THE FACT THAT I AM ALIVE...
AND THE FACT THAT I AM IN LOVE... HAS MY HATRED TOWARD THESE THINGS EVER BURNED SO PASSIONATELY?

MY LIFE IS ALREADY FUCKED.
I'LL STAB YOU JUST ENOUGH SO THAT YOU'LL WISH YOU WERE DEAD, BUT YOU WON'T BE SO LUCKY.

IF YOU'RE SCARED, TELL DAI LEE TO GET HIS ASS OVER HERE.
DAI...
AS SOON AS THE BASTARD MENTIONED DAI'S NAME IT DUG SO DEEP INTO MY HEART THAT IT TERRIFIED ME.
LEAVE DAI OUT OF THIS. HURT ME AS BAD AS YOU WANT, ASSHOLE!
I DON'T CARE IF I DIE RIGHT HERE.
STRANGELY ENOUGH...
THE THOUGHTS OF HOW FATE'S HAND HAD ENTANGLED OUR LIVES WOULDN'T LEAVE MY HEAD

aein T
RR
I
NG
DO YOU HAVE TO ANSWER YOUR PHONE WHEN YOU RE OUT TO DINNER?
YOONEUN, WHAT'S THE MATTER?
...!
SOMETHING'S WRONG, ISN'T IT?
WHAT IS IT?
HELP! I'M AT THE TRAIN TRACKS AT DONGGYO-DONG.
HURRY! JAEHEE... JAEHEE'S DYING!


CALM DOWN, YOONEUN, AND CALL THE POLICE RIGHT AWAY. YOU HAVE TO CALM DOWN, NO MATTER WHAT.
LUCKILY, I'M RIGHT NEARBY, SO I GET THERE IN NO TIME.
WHAT ARE YOU, CRAZY, YOO!?! YOU'RE SERIOUSLY GOING TO WALK OUT ON ME?
PLUS, IT MUST BE A DANGEROUS SITUATION IF YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT CALLING THE POLICE.
CALM DOWN! DON'T WALK RIGHT INTO SUCH A DANGEROUS SITUATION. YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO FIGHT!
ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING TO ME, YOO!?
SORRY I HAVE TO GO NOW.
YOO!-!
YOO!-!

HELP... HURRY! JAEHEE... JAEHEE S DYING!
WHAT THE HELL AM I?! WHAT THE HELL AM I TO YOU?! I DROP EVERYTHING AND GO RUNNING TO YOU JUST BECAUSE OF YOUR PATHETIC LITTLE TEARS?
RRRRR
HELLO?!

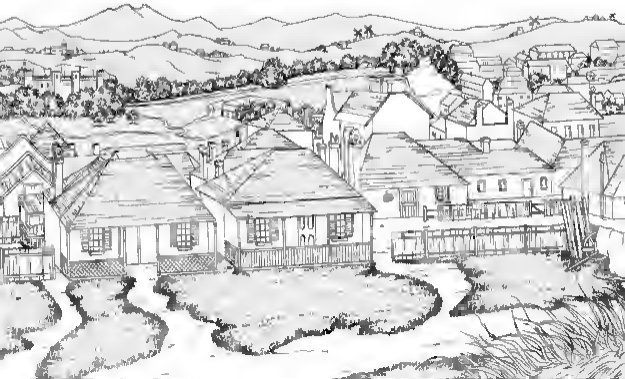
HE'S WITH SOME BROAD WHO AIN'T HALF BAD LOOKIN. DOES THAT SWEETEN THE POT?
WELL, LOOKS LIKE I'VE REACHED THE GREAT DAT LEE. YOUR FRIEND IS GASPIN' FOR HIS LAST BREATH OVER HERE.
WANNA FINISH THIS SALT DACE AND FOR ALL TODAY?
FINE. WHERE ARE YOU?
WE'RE IN A SERIOUS SHITHOLE.

VIEW 26. THE DANCE OF THE HEATHENS

THIS STORY IS FROM
A NOT SO DISTANT TIME,
A MAN DRIFTED INTO A SMALL VILLAGE
OF A KINGDOM.

THE MAN WAS ENAMORED WITH THE VILLAGE,
SO HE DECIDED TO SETTLE DOWN THERE.
HOWEVER, THE VILLAGERS DID NOT WANT
TO OPEN THEIR MINDS TO THE MAN.
IT WAS BECAUSE HIS LOOKS AND
HIS WORDS WERE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT,
BUT MORE THAN ANYTHING,
HE SHOWED NO INTEREST IN THE RELIGION
THAT THE VILLAGERS UPHELD.
THE VILLAGERS KEPT DISTANCING
THEMSELVES FROM THE MAN,
BECAUSE THEY WERE AFRAID OF THE FACT
THAT THEY DID NOT KNOW WHO HE TRULY WAS.
ON THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY
SINCE THE MAN HAD SETTLED DOWN IN THE VILLAGE,
AS THE VILLAGERS WALKED OUT OF
THEIR CHURCH AFTER SUNDAY PRAYERS

THE MAN WAS STANDING IN THE SQUARE
IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH.



SILENTLY,
AFTER GAZING AT
THE VILLAGERS,
THE MAN STARTED
TO DANCE ALL OF
A SUDDEN.

THE VILLAGERS COULD
NOT TAKE THEIR EYES OFF
THE MAN'S DANCE.
THE WAY HE MOVED,
WITH BOTH HIS ARMS OPEN
WIDE, LOOKED LIKE AS IF HE WAS
AN EAGLE FREELY SOARING INTO
THE VAST OPEN SKY.

THE WAY HE WAS KICKING THE GROUND AND
FLYING INTO THE AIR LOOKED AS IF HE WAS
A DOLPHIN ELEGANTLY SWIMMING THROUGH THE SEAS.
HIS BODY WAS FREE AND OVERPOWERING AS IF IT WAS
FREE FROM GRAVITY. WHEN HE HAD FINISHED DANCING,
THE VILLAGERS THAT HAD FILLED THE SQUARE SENT
FORTH SHOUTS OF JOYS AND THUNDEROUS
APPLAUSE AT THE SIGHT OF HIS BEAUTIFUL,
CAPTIVATING PERFORMANCE.

AND THEN THE VILLAGERS
ACCEPTED THE MAN.
IN NO TIME, THE RUMORS
ABOUT THE MAN SPREAD
TO FAR AWAY VILLAGES,
AND MANY WHO WISHED
TO SEE THE MAN DANCE
SWARMED INTO THE VILLAGE.
THE MAN JUST QUIETLY DANCED,
AS HE ALWAYS DID.
ON THE FORTY-FIFTH SUNDAY
SINCE THE MAN HAD SETTLED
DOWN IN THE VILLAGE,
THE RUMORS ABOUT HIM ALSO
REACHED THE JEALOUS RULER
OF THE KINGDOM.

THE RULER ORDERED HIS MEN, CRYING OUT: "CUT OFF THE HEATHEN'S TWO LEGS!"

GIVE ME YOUR CELL PHONES, YOU JERKS!
WHO THE HELL DID THIS BITCH CALL?
THIS IS WHY WE SHOULDA TAKEN AWAY THEIR PHONES IN TH' FIRST PLACE.
CHECK IT FAST!
YO. SHE COULDN'T HAVE CALLED THE COPS ALREADY, COULD SHE?
NO.
I TOOK IT AWAY FROM HER AFTER SHE SAID "YOO!" OR SOME SHIT.
SHUT UP ALREADY!
IF YOU RETARDS DON'T WANNA DIE TOO!

YO, THE FUCK IS UP HIS ASS?! HE EVEN SCARES THE SHIT OUTTA US.
NO FUCKIN' KIDDING! HE MAKES SUCH A GOD DAMN MESS OUTTA EVERYTHING
JUST LEAVE 'IM ALONE! I FEEL LIKE SHIT ANYWAYS.
HE'S JUST PISSIN' HIS PANTIES 'CAUSE OF DAI LEE.
THE FUCK CAN GO WRONG WHEN WE CAN JUST STAB HIS ASS WITH THIS?
JAEHEE...
GOT NO TUCHA ANGLE! HEAP WHEN I FOUGHT THOSE PUNKS! HAI I DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE THE STAB WOUND FROM DAI OXIN
JAEHEE...
EVEN THOUGH I HAD THOUGHT IT DIDN'T MATTER IF I DIED...
THE THROBBING PAIN WAS STILL TORTUROUS TO BEAR

JAEHEE, IT'S OKAY, JUST HOLD ON A LITTLE LONGER.
BUT THE STRANGE WAS...
YOO! WILL BE HERE SOON. JUST STICK IT OUT A LITTLE LONGER.
YOONEUN'S SOBBING VOICE
I'M GOING TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE.
IT WAS SO, SO SAD, THAT IT GAVE ME A STRANGE FEELING.
I'LL NEVER... NEVER COME TO A PLACE LIKE THIS EVER AGAIN
WE'LL BE FINE IT'S OKAY.
SO, EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE OKAY
YEAH, WE'LL BE FINE.
OF COURSE WE'LL BE FINE
IF... SOMETHING GOES WRONG WITH YOU...
IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO YOU TOO... WHAT AM I... WHAT AM I GONNA...

EUNHYUNG.

EUNHYUNG...

EUNHYUNG...

I'M SORRY, EUNHYUNG.

EUNHYUNG...

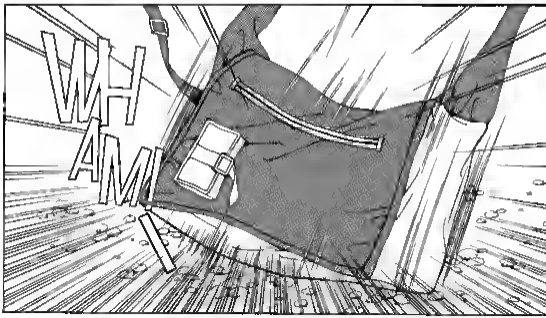
IT WAS CALLING OUT EUNHYUNG'S NAME WHICH WAS SO FAMILIAR TO US, BUT THERE WAS NO ONE ELSE WHO COULD SAY THE NAME THE WAY SHE DID

EUN HYUNG...

EUN-HYUNG...

IT WAS A VOICE THAT WAS BURSTING LITTLE BY LITTLE WITH TEARS AS IF POURING OUT ALL OF THE BLOOD IN THE VEINS.

WHEN I WONDERED "DOES SHE HAVE SUCH A PASSIONATE SIDE HIDDEN BEHIND HER NORMALLY CALM, RESOLUTE DEMEANOR?"
I WANTED TO HOLD YOONEUN'S HAND WITH ALL MY MIGHT.
I GRASPED ONTO THE END OF MY DISAPPEARING CONSCIOUSNESS AND HELD ONTO YOONEUN'S HAND AS HARD AS I COULD...
AND THEN IT ALL WENT BLACK.
JAEHEE...
JAEHEE!
JAE-HEE...


WH
AM

JAEHEE.
IT'S YOU...
AGAIN?

LUB DUB
YOU..
LET GO OF HIS HAND
GET YOUR HANDS OFF MY JAEHEE!
NOW!
WHAT THE... FUCK IS HE DOING?!
WHAT, CAN HE NOT SEE US?
IS HE FUCKIN' IGNORING US NOW?
WAIT UP! LET'S SEE WHAT THE HELL HE'S DOIN'.

NO.
I WON'T.
I JUST
CAN'T.
I CAN'T GO AND JUST
LEAVE JAEHEE HERE!
I'LL NEVER LET YOU
HAVE HIM.
WHAT ARE YOU,
CRAZY?!
WHO DO YOU
THINK YOU'RE
TALKING TO?!
LET GO!
TAKE A GOOD
LOOK! THIS IS ALL
BECAUSE OF YOU!
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!
IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF
YOU THAT JAEHEE'S
ALWAYS GETTING INTO
ALL THIS TROUBLE!
SUCH TERRIBLE
TROUBLE!
US?
LET GO OF US NOW!
LET GO OF JAEHEE--!

I DON'T LIKE YOU. I REALLY DON'T
I CAN'T STAND YOU MORE THAN THOSE RETARDS, ENOUGH TO WANT TO KILL YOU! YOU COULD ASK ME WHY, BUT I REALLY DON'T EVEN KNOW THE REASON. IT'S SEEMS WEIRD, EVEN TO ME.
THE WAY YOU TALK, YOUR FACE, YOUR VOICE! ALL THE THINGS YOU BLAB ABOUT, THIS WORLD... THEY MAKE ME SICK!
IT MAKES ME WANT TO PUKE ALL OVER YOUR SHOES!
YOU'RE RIGHT. RUNNING AROUND LIKE A THUG AND MESSING UP A PERFECT GUY ISN'T SOMETHING JUST ANYONE CAN DO
WELL, THAT EXPLAINS WHY YOU'RE SUCH AN AMAZING PERSON!
IF ONLY YOU'D NEVER MET JAEHEE, MY SISTER WOULD STILL BE ALIVE.
ALL BECAUSE OF YOU, MY SISTER...
SLAP

HOW'S THAT MY FAULT?
WHAT DOES THAT MAKE YOU? YOU'RE THE ONE TRYING TO CHAIN JAEHEE DOWN WITH THAT CRAZY IDEA!
DON'T YOU FEEL PATHETIC THAT YOU HAVE TO STOOP THAT LOW?
JAEHEE WAS FINE BEFORE YOU SHOWED UP!
YOU'RE THE DEVIL! THE DEVIL THAT DEVOURS JAEHEE!

STOMP
HUD!

YOU'VE HIT ROCK BOTTOM, BITCH! YOU'LL EVEN ROUGH UP A GIRL, NOW?
STOMP!
YOU'RE JUST USED TO HITTING, BUT YOU SUCK AT GETTING AN ASS WHOOPING!
UNNG...
TOO BAD. I'D BEEN LOOKIN' FORWARD TO DEATH BY DA! LEE KICKING ME AGAIN...
YOUR KICKS ARE SOME POWERFUL MOTHERFUCKERS! I DUNNO WHERE YOU GET THAT KINDA STRENGTH...
KKUAH

THEY'RE SO FUCKIN' STRONG THEY KNOCKED THE FARTS RIGHT OUTTA ME WHEN I WAS GETTIN' BEAT UP.
PSTBT.
HEH HEH
BUT, HAD I KNOWN THINGS WERE GONNA GO DOWN LIKE THIS, I SHOULDA ATTACKED YOU FIRST.

THUD

I NEVER MET SOMEONE WHO WON'T SHUT THE FUCK UP WHEN THEY'RE FIGHTING.

YOUR SKILLS AIN'T SO RUSTY, DAL

FUCK. I SINCERELY RESPECT YA.

スカ
PUNCH
I THINK IT'S YOU PUNKS WHO'VE HIT ROCK BOTTOM.
!
I'M SICK OF YOU.

I'M REALLY SICK AND TIRED OF YOUR SHIT.
ALL THIS SHIT HAS BEEN GETTING ON MY NERVES.
I HAD THOUGHT YOU PUNKS WERE HISTORY. BUT WHY DO YOU KEEP DRAGGING ME BACK INTO THIS, WHEN I BOUNCED FROM THIS BULLSHIT LONG AGO?
IF YOU PUNKS HIT ROCK BOTTOM, YOU SHOULDA FIGURED OUT HOW TO COME BACK, TOO. WHY DO YOU JUST STAND THERE AND KEEP PULLING ME BACK IN?
THIS IS WHY IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE SO SCARY...
THINGS THAT YOU THINK YOU'VE ENDED BUT WON'T END.
WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

# LetDai

VOL.15 CH.2

I NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE, NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES! HUFF HUFF!
IF WE STAY ANY LONGER, I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'LL DO TO US
AND THAT DEVIL DAI WILL DO ANYTHING IN HIS POWER TO SEPARATE ME AND JAEHEE!
I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE WHAT TERRIBLE THINGS HE'LL DO TO ME!
HE MIGHT EVEN TRY TO KILL ME!

YOO! WILL COME! WE'LL ONLY BE ABLE TO ESCAPE THIS HELL IF HE GETS HERE SOON.
SO MANY TIMES.. HE PROMISED ME HE'D BE THERE FOR ME.
HE MAY BE DAI'S OLDER BROTHER.. BUT I KNOW HE'LL STILL RESCUE ME
HEY...
HUKK!
YOONEUN...
IT IS YOU YOONEUN, ISN'T IT?
YOO!
YOO!, YOU CAME FOR ME! YOO!!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
I'M OKAY, BUT JAEHEE IS...
ARE YOU HURT AT ALL?

HE'S BEEN HOLDING OUT FOR A LONG TIME AGAINST THOSE TERRIBLE THUGS!
...
SO, WHERE IS HE? LEAD ME TO HIM.
WELL, AT LEAST HE DOESN'T LOOK AS BAD AS I EXPECTED.
YOO!, HELP US GET OUT OF HERE, QUICKLY!
C'MON, YOO!, HELP US. JAEHEE'S IN DANGER!
I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!

THAT'S...
LET'S GO, NOW! I SAID WE HAD TO GET OUT OF HERE, QUICKLY!
THAT'S... MY KID BROTHER.
THOSE PUNKS HAVE KNIVES!
NO, YOO!! PLEASE, WE HAVE TO GO NOW!
IF WE DON'T GET OUT OF HERE RIGHT AWAY, JAEHEE'S LIFE WILL BE AT STAKE!

WE CAN'T GET DRAGGED INTO THIS FIGHT MORE THAN WE HAVE BEEN ALREADY!
SO LET'S GO NOW, PLEASE--!
JUST WAIT A SECOND!
NO!
YOU PROMISED ME...
THAT YOU'D PROTECT ME,
AND THAT YOU'D BE ON MY SIDE.

IS THIS... THAT MOMENT?
YES!
THEN... THIS IS WHAT YOU WANTED?
YOU PROMISED ME, SO MANY TIMES, THAT YOU'D KEEP YOUR WORD!
YES...

YOOL... I NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE, THIS INSTANT! NO MATTER WHAT. I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!
BUT I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO MY BROTHER!
YOOL... YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH DAI DESPISES ME.
I DON'T WANT TO CROSS PATHS WITH DAI AGAIN.
HE MIGHT EVEN TRY TO KILL ME!
I'M SO... SO AFRAID OF HIM. HE GIVES ME THE CHILLS!
DO YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND THE KIND OF TERROR I'M FEELING RIGHT NOW?
ARE YOU THE KIND OF PERSON WHO JUST MAKES HEARTFELT PROMISES LIGHTLY?

SO...
YOU WANT ME TO TURN MY BACK ON MY OWN BROTHER, WHEN HE'S IN TROUBLE?
IF I DO THAT... WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO FOR ME?
...
I'LL BECOME A WOMAN WHO NEVER EVEN GLANCES AT ANOTHER MAN AGAIN.
I MEAN IT.
DON'T CONFUSE YOURSELF!

YOU'RE NOTHING TO ME.
YOO!...
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S FUNNY? WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE,,, ALL I WANTED WAS TO SEE THE DEPTHS OF JUST HOW LOW YOUR PRIDE COULD GO
AND YOU WANT ME TO BETRAY MY OWN BROTHER? YOU MUST BE CRAZY!

SLAP
SLAP
SO,
YOU JUST
PLAYED WITH
ME...!

BUT IT WAS A GOOD THING, AFTER ALL.
I NEVER REALLY HAD TRUE FEELINGS FOR YOU.

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
I CAN DO IT!
I CAN DO IT
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
JAEHEE, HOLD ON A LITTLE LONGER.

PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
JUST A LITTLE MORE. WE'LL GET YOU HELP SOON!
I WON'T LET YOU GO.. I WON'T!
HUDDLE UP, FUCKWADS!
YOU MADE THEM LOOK LIKE A SHISH KEBAB.

THE REASON YOU GOT YOUR SORRY ASSES BEAT TODAY IS...!
OUT OF REVENGE FOR THE SHIT YOU PULLED ON JAEHEE!
BUT IF YOU STILL WANT A GOOD BEATING FOR THE SHIT YOU PULLED ON ME, THEN YOU RE WELCOME TO COME FIND ME, ANYTIME!
HUCKS!
HUCKS!
HUCKS!
YOU LITTLE PUNK! SO VIOLENT...
ANYWAY... YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO THROW A PUNCH.

THIS REALLY IS A DANGEROUS PART OF TOWN. THE STREETS ARE DARK, AND IT'S TOTALLY DESERTED
HERE, TAKE A SMOKE, TOO!

SOMETHING WRONG? WHAT'S WITH THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE?
IT'S NOTHING.
SO, WHERE'D YOU END UP TAKING THAT BITCH AND JAEHEE?
DAL... I FEEL LIKE HELL BECAUSE OF THAT BITCH.
I WANTED TO DUMP HER IN THE WAY THAT WOULD'VE MADE ME FEEL BEST, FOR HURTING MY PRIDE.
IT WAS JUST THE MOMENT I'D BEEN WAITING FOR.
...
BUT THE THING IS... I GOT TO DO THAT, AND NOW I FEEL REALLY SHITTY.

I JUST REALLY FEEL AWFUL.
SO THEN... IS THAT BITCH WITH JAEHEE RIGHT NOW?
YEAH!
WHY'RE YOU STANDING UP, ALL OF A SUDDEN?
TO GO TAKE JAEHEE AWAY FROM THAT BITCH.
FORGET IT!
YOU KNOW HOW INSEPARABLE COUPLES LIKE THOSE TWO ARE.

DON'T SAY SUCH A FUCKING DISGUSTING THING!
JAEHEE DOESN'T GO TO ANYONE ELSE! BECAUSE HE'S MINE.
YOU...
YOU.. CAN'T BE TALKING ABOUT A GUY... THAT'S WHO YOU'VE BEEN SO CRAZY ABOUT?
IS THAT IT?
I DON'T CARE IF IT'S A GUY OR A GIRL! IT JUST NEEDS TO BE JAEHEE!

PHEW.
HOW CAN YOU BE THAT WAY?!
THIS IS A TOTAL SHOCK! A BIGGER SHOCK THAN THE ONE I GOT FROM YOONEUN.
HONESTLY, I ALWAYS THOUGHT YOU WERE A LITTLE WEIRD...
CRAZY ASS...
CRAZY ASS... YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A CRAZY ASS, BUT NOW YOU'RE REALLY A CRAZY BASTARD!
JUST TELL ME WHERE THEY ARE!
..
THEY JUST FOLLOWED THE TRAIN TRACKS, SO THEY PROBABLY HAVEN'T GOTTEN TOO FAR.
YOU DON'T KNOW?

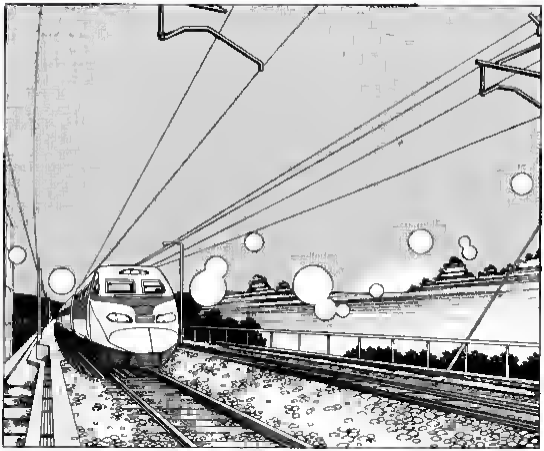
LATER!
DAI! PLEASE, GO FAR AWAY!
DON'T HURT THE PEOPLE AROUND YOU ANY MORE. HIDE YOURSELF DEEP AWAY, TIGHTLY, AND VERY FAR! I'LL HELP YOU.
IF YOU'RE NOT EVEN GONNA DO THAT, YOU'RE A FAKE! YOU'RE JUST A NUTCASE WHO'S GOING CRAZY!
STAY OUT OF THIS!
THMP.
THMP.
...
DAI!

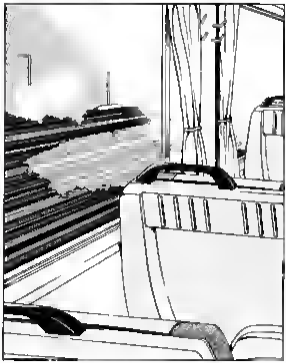
YOU RE MY LITTLE BROTHER! I CAN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND YOU...
IF IT WASN'T YOU...
IF IT HAD BEEN OUR OLDEST BROTHER...
I WOULD HAVE KEPT MY PROMISES TO YOONEUN.

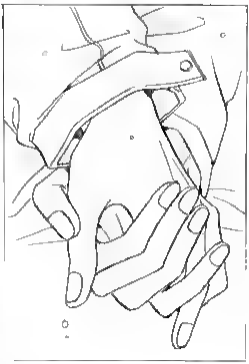
DUMBASS.
YOU COULD JUST DATE HER!
...!
JAEHEE, WAIT HERE, JUST FOR A MOMENT!
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK. I'M RUNNING OVER TO GET A CAR, OR SOMEONE TO HELP US.

CLANG!
911?
THERE'S SOMEONE HERE WHO'S VERY INJURED.
HE'S BEEN STABBED AND BEATEN WITH A BLUNT OBJECT!
...SOMEONE'S HURT?
WHERE'S THE PERSON NOW?
Hurt
HE'S RIGHT HERE.

없음
차단기
HUH?
JAEHEE'S GONE! WHAT HAPPENED?!
I DEFINITELY CARRIED HIM HERE, AND THEN PUT HIM DOWN...
WHAT, IS SHE MESSING WITH US?
HEY! LET'S GO!
WHAT THE...?! JUST MY LUCK.
THAT'S NOT IT! THAT'S...
JAEHEE..
THAT'S NOT...
JAEHEE.







THE KING'S MEN CUT
THE DANCER'S TWO LEGS,
AS THE KING ORDERED THEM TO.
THE VILLAGERS MOURNED,
FOR THEY WOULD NEVER AGAIN
BE ABLE TO SEE THE MAN'S
BEAUTIFUL DANCE.

HOWEVER,
ON THE DAWN OF
THE SEVENTIETH SUNDAY THAT
THE MAN WHO'D LOST HIS LEGS
HAD COME TO THE VILLAGE,
HE APPEARED ONCE AGAIN IN
THE TOWN SQUARE.
AND THEN—.

URRGH
YOU FEEL LIKE PUKING?
NO .. NO... I'M OKAY
HOLD ON A LITTLE LONGER. WE'LL BE THERE SOON
I TOLD YOU TO TAKE ME FURTHER AWAY... BECAUSE I'M FINE.

WE'VE ALREADY COME FAR AWAY!
ANYWAY, ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE ALRIGHT?
YOU STOPPED THE BLEEDING JUST LIKE A PRO.
DUDE--I THAT'S 'CAUSE I'M USED TO IT.
JAEHEE...

JAEHEE!

## VIEW 27: LETHARGY

DAI CARRIED ME ON HIS BACK
FOR A LONG TIME
LETHARGY BEGAN TO WASH OVER ME
TO THE POINT THAT EVEN MY OWN BREATHING
HAD BECOME BURDENSOME
THE LETHARGY OF MY PRESENT LIFE,
OF BEING EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD
WAS A HEAVIER WEIGHT THAN DEATH
OR ENDLESS WANDERING

I HAD FELT COLD SWEAT DRENCHING MY CLOTHES
AS THEY BUNCHED TOGETHER LIKE
A HANDFUL OF CRUMPLED TISSUES.
MY WOUNDS HAD BEEN DRESSED WITH EXPERTISE
AND THE ACHES WOULD CONTINUE TO FADE IN AND OUT...
BUT EVEN THESE THINGS ARE NOT AS DIFFICULT
AS COPING WITH THE LETHARGY I FEEL NOW

EVEN AFTER I HAD DISCOVERED —
THAT THE SHOULDERS WHICH RAISED THEMSELVES
TO GIVE ME A PLACE TO LEAN INTO WERE DAI'S,
IN THE TRAIN AND ON THE BOAT
I STILL COULDN'T OPEN MY EYES
BECAUSE OF THE LETHARGY

THE LETHARGY INVADED MY BODY LIKE THE FLU
AND I FELT LIKE I WANTED TO SINK DOWN
JUST THE WAY I WAS
TOGETHER WITH THE WINTER

THE LETHARGY OF YOUTH...
WHAT'S SCARIER THAN THAT?

WHY'S THIS SCHOOL SO DEAD?
DID TH' VICE PRINCIPAL RESIGN OR SOMETHIN'?
DUNNO, BUT THE TEACHERS ARE WALKIN' AROUND IN GROUPS, AND THEY ALL LOOK OUT OF IT!

I KNOW THAT TOO, YA PUNK!
YOU GOTTA REPORT BACK WITH THINGS I DON'T KNOW! WHAT'S THE POINT OF TALKIN' ABOUT SHIT EVERYONE ALREADY KNOWS?
DANG—, THE FOOD CHAIN HERE'S ALL FUCKED UP!
ANYWAYS, THE SCHOOL REALLY IS STRANGE.
THE VIBE HERE IS FREAKIN' CREEPY!
DAI GETS QUIET, AND THEN TH' TEACHERS GET REAL WEIRD.
WHATEVER. BUT DAI AND JAEHEE, I HAVEN'T SEEN EITHER OF 'EM AROUND...
I HEARD DAI-OXIN'S GANG GOT CALLED IN BY THE GUIDANCE COUNSELOR. THEY GOT LECTURED TO DEATH.
WERE THEY BEIN' LECTURED, OR TORTURED?
SO, DAI-OXIN'S STILL LAID UP IN THE HOSPITAL, EH?

YEAH.
MISS CRANGELA'S IN THE HOSPITAL, TOO. AND DAI, JAEHEE, AND NARU ARE ALL GONE.
DAI-OXIN THAT PUNK, I HEAR IS IN REAL BAD SHAPE.
MAN... NOW THAT I THINK 'BOUT IT... OUR SCHOOL'S REAL LONELY FOR A TROUBLED HERO LIKE ME.
MAYBE IT'S TIME FOR ME "I" SLOWLY TAKE MY PLACE.
UM... BOSS...
AREN'T YOU COLD?
ARE YOU GONNA SLEEP AT SCHOOL AGAIN TODAY?

SHOOK
YUP! GO HOME IF YOU WANNA.
I GOTTA GET READY FOR COLLEGE NOW, AND TH' SEASON FOR STUDYIN' IS IN FULL SWING... HUM HUM!
BUT IT'S ALREADY BEEN A FEW DAYS!
WHY DON'T YOU JUST GET THINGS SETTLED WITH YOUR POPS?
I-- TOLD YA NOT TO TALK ABOUT THAT OL' FART--!
BOSS, YOUR MOM'S WORRIED SICK. AREN'T YOU WORRIED FOR HER?
MY MA'S SAFE! SHE GOES INTO WORK EVERY DAY!
YOU THINK I DON'T EVEN CHECK THAT?!
THAT FATHER OF MINE-- HE'S AN IGNORANT, IRRESPONSIBLE HUMAN BEING, WHO DON'T EVEN MEASURE UP TO BEIN' AN ANIMAL.
IF I WERE A WOMAN, THERE'S NO WAY I WOULDA LIVED LIKE MY MA.
I DON'T GET HOW WE GOT AN EQUAL NUMBER OF MEN AN' WOMEN IN THE WORLD, BUT SO MANY MORE GUYS ARE SCUMBAGS WHO DO REAL NASTY THINGS.

BOSS, WHY DO YOU HATE YOUR POPS SO MUCH?
I GUESS IT WAS JUST HIS WAY OF HAVIN' FUN— BEATIN' UP HIS OWN LITTLE BOY AND WIFE, THE EASIEST AND WEAKEST TARGETS. DID IT WHENEVER THE JERK CAME BACK HOME WASTED. SOMETIMES EARLY IN THE MORNIN'. AND OTHER TIMES IN MIDDLE OF TH' AFTERNOON.
THERE AIN'T NEVER BEEN ONE DAY THAT I DIDN'T GET BEAT UP BY THAT ASSHOLE WHEN I WAS A KID.
YOU GOT NO IDEA HOW MUCH OF A NIGHTMARE EVERY SINGLE DAY WAS.

THOSE ASSHOLES ALWAYS ARE WEAK TOWARDS TH STRONG AND STRONG TOWARDS TH WEAK WHEN THEY'RE IN PUBLIC.
SO, HE TOOK IT OUT ON HIS FRAGILE LIL' KID AND WIFE, WHEN HE WAS SUPPOSED T'BE PROTECTIN' THEM.
PRAYED EVERY GOD DAMN DAY WHEN I WAS A KID.
GOD PLEASE DON'T LET MOMMY N ME
OPEN OUR EYES TOMORROW MORNIN
BUT WE NEVER FAILED TO OPEN OUR EYES EACH MORNIN', AND WE EVEN FELT HUNGRY AT MEALTIMES.
SO, ONCE IN A WHILE WHEN THAT PRICK DIDN'T COME HOME, IT WAS HEAVEN.
EVEN WHEN I STARVED ALL THE TIME WITH MY MA, 'CAUSE WE HAD NO FOOD.
IT WAS HEAVEN

HE CAN'T DO ANYTHIN' TO ME, 'CAUSE HE'S OLD AND WEAKER THAN ME.
BUT THE BASTARD STILL LIVES ON, TORTURIN' MY MA.
BOSS..
HOW COULD I CALL THAT ANIMAL FATHER?!
Y'CALL SCUM LIKE HIM A HUMAN BEING, WHEN HE ABUSES HIS OWN FAMILY, HIDIN' BEHIND THE MASK OF BEIN' THE ONE WHO "WEARS THE PANTS?"
WHAT KINDA FATHER DRAGS NOT ONLY HIS LIFE, BUT HIS FAMILY'S LIFE INTO THE DIRT?
THAT AIN'T A FATHER, THAT'S THE DEVIL! DEVIL, I TELL YA!

BOSS!
DON'T BE SO SAD! YOU KNOW YOU GOT ME!
AS IF YOU COULD DO JACK SHIT FOR ME!
I... RESPECT YOU MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, BOSS!
I'VE SEEN ALL THE GUYS WHO ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE MAD POWER, BUT NONE OF 'EM HAVE BEEN AS NICE AS YOU!
WEREN'T YOU... JUST TRYIN' TO BE A GANGSTA?
I MEAN, LIKE TH FURIES OR SOMETHIN ...
...

I USED TO GET DITCHED ALL THE TIME, 'CAUSE I WAS ALWAYS SUCH A WEAK KID--
SO I HAD TO MAKE IT STOP SOMEHOW, AND I WENT LOOKING FOR ALL SORTS OF GANGS, AND THEN I BUMPED INTO YOU, BOSS
I PROMISED MYSELF GROWIN' UP, GETTIN' BEAT UP LIKE THAT...
I TOLD MYSELF, EVEN IF I GET BEAT UP BY THAT BASTARD, I'LL NEVER LET ANY OTHER FUCKER HIT ME IN PUBLIC. EVER.
I SAID I'D BE THE ONE TO KICK THE SHIT OUTTA PEOPLE.
BUT, VIOLENCE BRINGS VIOLENCE!
WHENEVER I HEARD ABOUT A PUNK WHO WAS SUPPOSEDLY ALL RIPPED AND SHIT I'D FOLLOW HIM AROUND TO TRY AN' TAKE HIM DOWN A NOTCH
SO...!
SO...
WHATEVER, I RESPECT YOU! DON'T GO THROUGH THAT KINDA HELL ANYMORE.

WAUGHH!~
SNIFFLE~
BOSS!
GOD, WHAT AN UGLY SIGHT! I CAN'T EVEN BEAR TO LOOK AT THIS
Y... YOU!
HAS IT BEEN TOO LONG SINCE I MADE AN APPEARANCE?
LET ME INTRODUCE MYSELF, MY NAME IS NARU HAGI, THE MOST POPULAR SUPPORTING ACTOR IN "LET DAI," AND ACCORDING TO MYSELF, AS WELL AS A FEW OTHER PEOPLE, THE BIGGEST HEARTTHROB IN THE SERIES. I'M THE MCDREAMY TO END ALL MCDREAMYS, ENTERING AS A BLONDE WHEN THE AUTHOR HAS TIME, AND AS A BLACK HAIRED GUY WHEN SHE'S TOO BUSY SHOULD I CALL MYSELF THE MALE "CANDY CANDY?"
WHADDYA YOU, SICK IN THE HEAD?!
I DON'T GET ANYTHIN' YOU RE SAYIN', YOU CRAZY ASS!

SHOULD I RECITE ALL THAT AGAIN?
ANYWAY, THE HELL ARE YOU DOIN' HERE AT THIS HOUR?
C'MON~ I RAN ALL THE WAY OVER HERE TO SEE YOU!
DON'T YOU KNOW THAT I'M A PROBLEM SOLVER? I SOLVE EVERYTHING FROM FAMILY ISSUES, TO POOR GRADES, TO MONEY TROUBLES.
I CALLED HIM, AND TOLD HIM YOU WERE GOIN' THROUGH HELL, BOSS.
IT'S MAD FREAKIN GOOD TO SEE YOU, MAN!
CHECK OUT MY WALLET! I'M LOADED TODAY. SHOULD WE GO GET SOME BBQ?
OR, WE COULD PULL AN ALL NIGHTER, AND GO DRINK AT MY JOB.
YOU BET YOUR ASS!
ME TOO!

# Let Dai

VOL.15 CH.3

I HAVEN'T OPENED MY EYES PEACEFULLY IN SUCH A LONG TIME.
THAT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE...
CLACK
OF THIS GUY
YO~, I THOUGHT YOU WERE IN PAIN, BUT YOU LOOK JUST FINE.
I FEEL LIKE I'VE SLEPT FOR A REALLY LONG TIME.
BURBLE
YOU DID SLEEP FOR A MAD LONG TIME, LIKE SOMEONE WHO'D NEVER SLEPT A WINK IN HIS WHOLE LIFE.
I CAN BARELY PICTURE EVERYTHING THAT'S GONE ON SINCE LAST NIGHT.

DON'T THINK SO HARD ABOUT IT.
WHERE ARE WE?
WE'RE IN THE WOODS. THIS LOG CABIN BELONGS TO SOME GUY I KNOW
A GUY YOU KNOW?
WELL, I COULDN'T JUST CALL HIM A DUDE, HE'S TOO OLD FOR ME TO CALL HIM THAT.
HE'S SOME MAN WHO LIVES WELL ENOUGH WITH ENOUGH CASH AND GOOD LOOKS TO BE SET.
HE LIVES HERE?
PROBABLY! MAYBE 'CAUSE HE'S OLD AND SINGLE HE LIVES HOWEVER THE HELL HE WANTS.
—
.....

THAT'S REALLY COOL!
KOFF,
UGH
BE CAREFUL!
WHY AM I SO WIPED OUT?
YOU BLED A HELL OF A LOT.
REALLY? I LOST BLOOD?
YEAH

THAT'S REALLY COOL!
KOFF,
UGH
BE CAREFUL!
WHY AM I SO WIPED OUT?
YOU BLED A HELL OF A LOT.
REALLY? I LOST BLOOD?
YEAH

UGH—, I MUST'VE BLED EVEN MORE THAN WHEN I GO TO DONATE BLOOD I'VE GOT NO ENERGY...
STUPID. WHY THE HELL DO YOU EVEN DO THAT CHARITY SHIT? I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE SUCH A GOODY-GOODY! JUST THOUGHT YOU WERE A HARD WORKING JERK.
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?
A GOODY-GOODY GETS DRAWN INTO SHIT EASILY. AND A HARD WORKING JERK DOESN'T!
... (WHAT DOES HE MEAN?)
C'MON. DON'T LET IT FREAK YOUR SHIT!

DON'T WORRY. I'LL BE YOUR BULLETPROOF VEST FROM NOW ON.
DOES THAT MEAN WE'RE ALWAYS GONNA BE MOVING TOGETHER?
EVEN WITH THEIR WARMTH.
YEAH.
DAI'S EYES WOUND ME.

THEY APPROACH WHILE DISTANCING THEMSELVES AWAY...
THEY COME NEAR, WHILE FADING AWAY
I'M HUNGRY.
SIZZLE
SIZZLE
SO, WHATCHA THINK? AIN'T I A DOPE COOK?
I'VE KILLED MAD PEOPLE WITH MY SKILLS.
YOU SEE, IT'S LIKE THE PERFECT MATCH OF SWEET POTATOES AND GIMCHI— A MUST HAVE.
YEAH, IT'S NOT BAD.
EAT UP LIKE A MAN. I DON'T CARE HOW SICK YOU ARE! REAL MEN DON'T PICK AT THEIR FOOD—!
CLONK
ARUGH—!

I AM ENJOYING MY FOOD! BUT I WAS JUST TAKING MY TIME WONDERING WHAT THAT DISH WAS, SINCE I'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE.
IT'S A KOALA DISH.
OOH!
DIDN'T YOU NOTICE...
NOTICE WHAT?
THAT YOU SUNK TO DELINQUENT STATUS IN NO TIME YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW IT!
PIOP

THAT'S RIGHT! I DIDN'T KNOW.
YOU GET GOOD GRADES, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU'RE NOT STILL A DELINQUENT!
WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME WITH SUCH FORLORN EYES?
CHOMP
NOW I CAN'T EAT
DO YOU RISK EVERYTHING LIKE THAT WHEN YOU FALL IN LOVE?

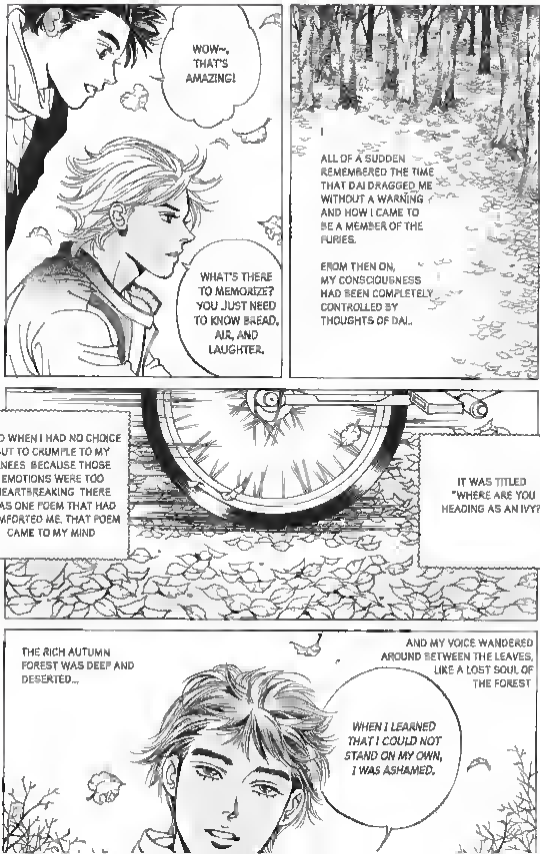
WHY DO YOU ASK THAT?
KLAK
KLAK
'CAUSE YOU'RE DITCHING SCHOOL AGAIN TODAY!
PU
HEHEH
I'M ALREADY FUCKED UP SO I DO IT ALL THE TIME, BUT...
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL IN MISSING SCHOOL?
DO YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT I'M THINKING?
I'M GONNA CONTINUE TO STAY HERE.

DAMN! THE LANDSCAPE HERE IS KILLER.
I ALREADY KNOW THAT, DUDE.
YOU CAN SEE THEM TOO, RIGHT? ALL THOSE LEAVES, SPREAD OUT LIKE A CARPET UP UNTIL THIS ROAD ENDS...
YEAH.

WHATEVER. JUST KEEP READING THAT BOOK YOU'D BEEN READING TO ME!
I'LL ENJOY THE VIEW FOR YOU.
BUT THE ROAD IS TOO ROCKY.
YOU'RE READING FITZGERALD, RIGHT?
YEAH.
YOU READ SOME SERIOUSLY DATED CLASSICS.
THAT'S THE AUTHOR WHO HARUKI LIKES!
IT'S A CLASSIC OF ALL CLASSICS-
WHO DO YOU LIKE?
BORGES, DOSTOYEVSKY, HYUNGDO GI, AND NERUDA*.
* BORGES: A 20TH CENTURY ARGENTINIAN POET AND WRITER
DOSTOYEVSKY: A 19TH CENTURY RUSSIAN NOVEL ST
HYUNGDO GI: A 20TH CENTURY KOREAN POET AND
NERUDA: A 20TH CENTURY CHILEAN

I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU'D NEVER READ NERUDA'S WORK.
I DECIDED TO LIKE IT FROM NOW ON, SINCE YOU'RE READING IT.
TAKE BREAD AWAY FROM ME, IF YOU WISH...
TAKE AIR AWAY, BUT
DO NOT TAKE FROM ME YOUR LAUGHTER.
HUH? HOW'D YOU MEMORIZE THAT SO QUICKLY?

EXCERPTS FROM PABLO NERUDA'S POEM, "YOUR LAUGHTER"


WOW~, THAT'S AMAZING!
WHAT'S THERE TO MEMORIZE? YOU JUST NEED TO KNOW BREAD, AIR, AND LAUGHTER.
ALL OF A SUDDEN REMEMBERED THE TIME THAT DAI DRAGGED ME WITHOUT A WARNING AND HOW I CAME TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FURIES.
FROM THEN ON, MY CONSCIOUSNESS HAD BEEN COMPLETELY CONTROLLED BY THOUGHTS OF DAI..
AND WHEN I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO CRUMPLE TO MY KNEES BECAUSE THOSE EMOTIONS WERE TOO HEARTBREAKING THERE WAS ONE POEM THAT HAD COMFORTED ME. THAT POEM CAME TO MY MIND
IT WAS TITLED "WHERE ARE YOU HEADING AS AN IVY?"
THE RICH AUTUMN FOREST WAS DEEP AND DESERTED...
AND MY VOICE WANDERED AROUND BETWEEN THE LEAVES, LIKE A LOST SOUL OF THE FOREST
WHEN I LEARNED THAT I COULD NOT STAND ON MY OWN, I WAS ASHAMED.

TO CLIMB DOWN THE CLIFF OF HOPE, FAR AWAY THROUGH THE TELESCOPE,
MY BODY WAS TOO FRAIL AND TIRED,
THE DAY THAT I WAS TO CROSS SPANNED WIDER THAN THE RIVER THAT NO MAN COULD EVER CROSS, YET I THOUGHT, I MUST LIVE ' SO I GRABBED HOLD OF ANYTHING THAT CAME TO MY HANDS.
YES, THE THING THAT IS SCALING THIS LOFTY FENCE IS NOT THE SUM OF MY PARTS.
THIS THING THAT STICKS TO THE WALL, SUCKING THE LIFE FROM ALL THAT IT TOUCHES, IS NOT MINE. MY LOVE IS NOT SUCH A THING...

THE DAYS I'VE ENDURED ARE CLINGING ON LIKE COLD DROPS OF SWEAT, FALLEN LEAVES... BUT I MUST LEAP OVER THAT FENCE.
I MUST GO ON UNTIL I CAN STAND PROUDLY WITH THE FORCE OF MY OWN STRENGTH, AT LEAST UNTIL I REACH THE DESERT.
--THAT GROUNDING FORCE OF LIFE THAT YEARNS TO EMBRACE ITS BIRTHPLACE, YET STILL PUSHES WITH ALL ITS MIGHT TO REJECT IT...
WHAT DO YOU THINK? IT'S NICE, HUH?
WHOSE POEM IS THAT?
I DON'T KNOW. I JUST LEARNED IT BY CHANCE.

IT'S LIKE ME.
HUH?
IT'S JUST LIKE THE WAY I LOVE YOU.
THE WORDS THAT OAI SPIT OUT SO CASUALLY BECAME LEAVES THAT FLUTTERED DOWN SILENTLY INTO MY HEART
YEAH. THE THING CLIMBING UP THAT TALL FENCE ISN'T ALL THAT I AM AND IT'S NOT ALL MY LOVE IS!

OAI. WE'RE CARBON COPIES OF EACH OTHER!
JUST FLY!
WHAT?
JUST TRY TO FLY! I WANT TO FLY!
YOU FLY WITH YOUR OWN WINGS! I DON'T GOT ANY WINGS!
BUT YOU CAN FLY, THOUGH!
BUT STILL, HOW COULD I FLY WITH A BICYCLE--?
YOU CAN DO IT!
DAMN IT!
LET'S STEP ON IT! REAL HARD! VIOLENTLY!
OKAY, HOLD ON TIGHT!

WE HAD TO GO THIS FAR TO FIND A PHARMACY?
SUPERMARKETS HAVE ALMOST EVERYTHING, AND WE STILL CAME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE DAMN IT!

* THE SIGN READS "PHARMACY"

HERE YOU GO.
THANK YOU
UM... IF YOU'RE HAVING THOSE KINDS OF SYMPTOMS, YOU NEED TO GET TO THE HOSPITAL IMMEDIATELY. IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG AND THE TETANUS SPREADS, YOU'LL BE IN SERIOUS DANGER.
NO WAY. I'LL BE FINE.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "NO WAY?" YOU CAN'T JUST TREAT INJURIES LIGHTLY.
BESIDES, DEPENDING ON WHERE YOU'RE HURT, A DIFFERENT TREATMENT MIGHT BE REQUIRED
DON'T BRUSH OFF MY ADVICE GO TO THE HOSPITAL— IT'S RIGHT AROUND HERE.
OKAY!

TAK
DID YOU GET IT?
YEAH.
LET'S GO.
OKAY.
YOU GOT THE BOOK, RIGHT?
HOO HOO...
HEY! YOU'RE HOLDING ON TOO TIGHT!

RING
RING
WHAT THE... YOU LEFT YOUR PHONE ON!
BWOOP.
IT'S ME MOM! WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU'RE FAR WHERE ON EARTH ARE YOU? JUST WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO COME BACK
BWOOP.
COME BACK JAEHEE! I'M GOING TO GO CRAZY AT THIS RATE ARE YOU WITH HIM? WHY ARE YOU BEING THIS WAY?!

BARP
...!
HEY! WHAT'S TAKING YOU SO LONG?!

I TOLD YOU, I'M JUST CONSTIPATED!
GET OUTTA THERE, NOW--!
...WHY ARE YOU BEING LIKE THAT? IS SOMETHING WRONG?
I'M SO DAMN BORED CAUSE YOU'RE NOT HERE.
WHY AM I IN SO MUCH PAIN? IS SOMETHING GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME?
MAYBE I SHOULD GO SEE A DOCTOR TOMORROW

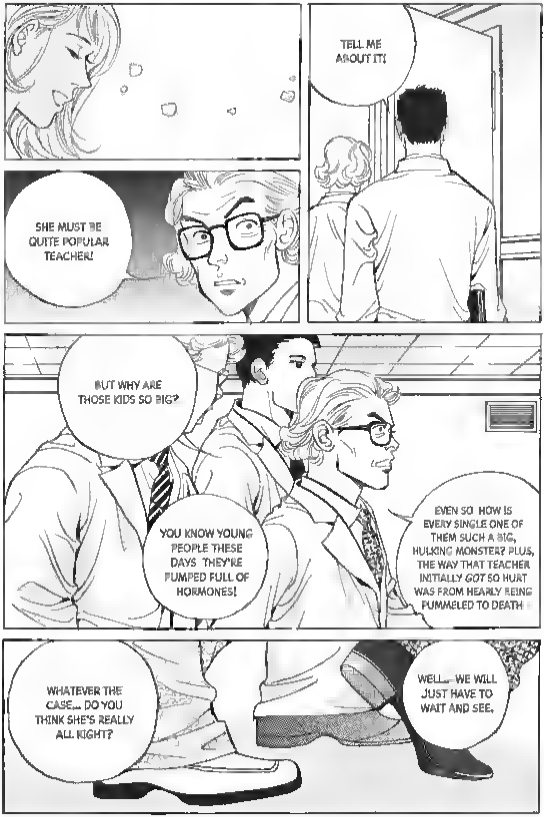
LET ME JUST... BEAR THE PAIN, FOR JUST A BIT LONGER. MAYBE I'LL GET BETTER IF I CAN JUST HOLD ON.
AS LONG AS IT'S POSSIBLE... LET ME GET THROUGH THIS.
A LITTLE LONGER.. JUST— A LITTLE LONGER..
I WANT TO STAY WITH DAI

GANGDONG HOSPITAL
HOW DID SHE RESPOND AFTER SHE REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS?
SHE SEEMED TO BE FINE.
HOW IS HER PRESENT CONDITION?
SHE SEEMS TO BE STABLE.

ARE YOU FEELING BETTER, Ms. JIN?
HOW DOES IT FEEL? ISN'T YOUR HEAD POUNDING?
MY HEAD HURTS.
STILL, YOU'RE LUCKY TO BE ALIVE-- EVEN IN THE CONDITION YOU ARE NOW.
DOCTOR, HAVE I BEEN IN THE HOSPITAL FOR A LONG TIME?
YES, IT HAS BEEN SOME TIME!
THEN WHEN CAN I BE DISCHARGED?
WHY DO YOU ASK? ARE YOU TRYING TO GO BACK TO WORK?

THE KIDS...
I'M WORRIED SICK BECAUSE OF MY STUDENTS.
I CAN'T WAIT TO RETURN TO SCHOOL.
YOU HAVE TO REGAIN YOUR HEALTH FIRST. YOU NARROWLY AVOIDED DEATH
YOUR BODY HAS STILL NOT COMPLETELY RECOVERED.
SO EVEN WHEN YOU GO BACK TO SCHOOL, FOR THE TIME BEING YOU MUST BE VERY CAREFUL.
YOU SHOULD PAY NO MIND TO STRESSFUL MATTERS OR EXTREMELY AGITATING SITUATIONS
YOU NEED ABSOLUTE TRANQUILITY.
MS. JINI
OH, THOSE LITTLE RASCALS ARE HERE AGAIN

MS. JIN, YOU'RE FINALLY AWAKE.
ARE YOU ALL BETTER NOW?
H...HEY YOU GUYS!
YOU LITTLE--! DO YOU STILL NOT UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF VISITING HOURS?
WE BROUGHT YOU SOME RED BEAN PORRIDGE. HERE. TRY IT!
THANKS, KIDS!
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW WORRIED WE'VE BEEN ABOUT YOU?

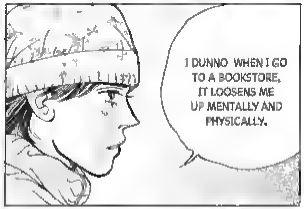

TELL ME ABOUT IT!
SHE MUST BE QUITE POPULAR TEACHER!
BUT WHY ARE THOSE KIDS SO BIG?
YOU KNOW YOUNG PEOPLE THESE DAYS. THEY'RE PUMPED FULL OF HORMONES!
EVEN SO. HOW IS EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM SUCH A BIG, HULKING MONSTER? PLUS, THE WAY THAT TEACHER INITIALLY *GOT* SO HURT WAS FROM NEARLY BEING PUMMELED TO DEATH!
WHATEVER THE CASE... DO YOU THINK SHE'S REALLY ALL RIGHT?
WELL... WE WILL JUST HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE.

BAPP..
COME BACK, JAEHEE! YOU'RE ALL THAT I HAVE LEFT! COME BACK! COME BACK!
YOU WAITED LONG, HUH.
SO FUCKING LONG.

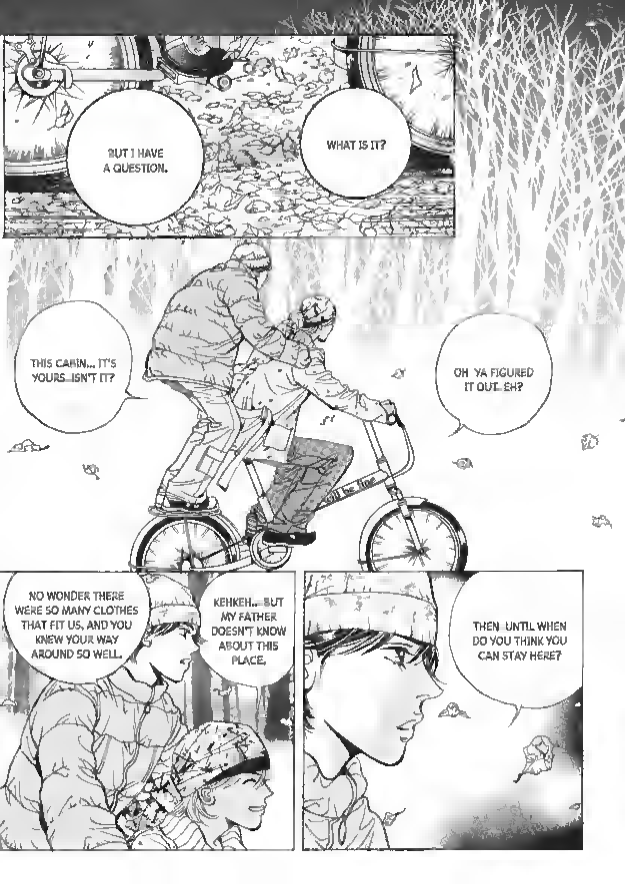
WHAT'S WITH THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE? YOU'RE MAD BECAUSE I TOOK SO LONG?
NAH~, WHY WOULD I BE?
THUD
YOU HAVE A FEVER. ARE YOU HURTING SOMEWHERE?
NO! WHY DO YOU KEEP ASKING ME WHEN I'M PERFECTLY FINE~?! IT'S GETTING ON MY NERVES!
THEN WHY ARE YOU BEING LIKE THAT? YOU GETTING CABIN FEVER?
WANNA GO OUTSIDE?

TO A BOOKSTORE? I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE WE COULD FIND ONE.

I SAW A USED BOOKSTORE IN THAT VILLAGE AT THE BASE OF THE MOUNTAIN WHEN WE WENT TO THAT PHARMACY EARLIER.
WHY THERE?


I DUNNO WHEN I GO TO A BOOKSTORE, IT LOOSENS ME UP MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY.

NERD! EVERYTHING'S BUGGING YOU NOW, ISN'T IT?

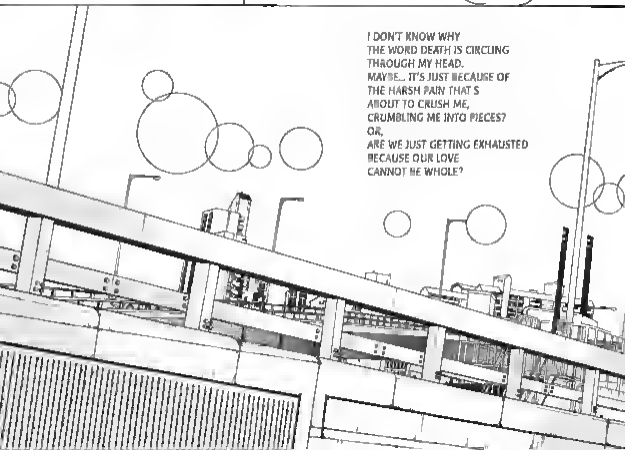

BUT I HAVE A QUESTION.
WHAT IS IT?
THIS CABIN... IT'S YOURS...ISN'T IT?
OH YA FIGURED IT OUT...EH?
NO WONDER THERE WERE SO MANY CLOTHES THAT FIT US, AND YOU KNEW YOUR WAY AROUND SO WELL.
KEHKEH... BUT MY FATHER DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS PLACE.
THEN...UNTIL WHEN DO YOU THINK YOU CAN STAY HERE?

UNTIL WE DIE.
BUT IF ONE OF US DIES FIRST, THEN...
WE'LL DIE WITH EACH OTHER.
WOULD YOU REALLY DIE TOGETHER WITH ME?
YOU KNOW WHAT?
JUST BECAUSE OUR BREATH STOPS AT THE SAME TIME DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN WE'RE DYING TOGETHER.
EVEN IF I STAY ALIVE AFTER YOU DIE, THAT WON'T MEAN I'M ACTUALLY ALIVE.

IT WOULD BE BETTER TO DIE THAN TO LIVE LIKE THAT.
DEATH IS NOT A FINAL STOP. IT'S JUST A STOP ALONG THE WAY TO ANOTHER LIFE.
DEATH IS JUST ANOTHER CONCEPT THAT HUMANS CREATED.
AS SOON AS WE DIE WE PASS ONTO ANOTHER REALM. THAT'S ALL.
WE FINISH OUR LIVES HERE SO WE CAN GO TO ANOTHER REALM HAND IN HAND.

SO I GUESS DEATH IS THE ONLY THING THAT CAN SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS.
IDIOT! BUT THAT'S A PLACE WE KNOW NOTHING ABOUT.
WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO IF IT DOESN'T SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS, BUT MAKES THINGS WORSE?
THAT'S WHY WE'RE GONNA TRY OUR BEST IN THIS WORLD
KNOWING YOU... HAS TAUGHT ME ONE THING.
WHAT IS IT?
IF YOU'RE UNABLE TO BE LOVED, YOU HAVE NO LUCK...
BUT NOT BEING ABLE TO LOVE WILL DAMN YOU TO UNHAPPINESS.

WHAT'S WRONG? DO I SOUND CORNY TO YOU?
NO, IT MAKES SENSE. I JUST WANNA REST 'CAUSE I M A LITTLE TIRED
ACTUALLY, I HEARD IT SOMEWHERE, TOO.
THAT DOESN'T MATTER.


I DON'T KNOW WHY THE WORD DEATH IS CIRCLING THROUGH MY HEAD. MAYBE... IT'S JUST BECAUSE OF THE HARSH PAIN THAT S ABOUT TO CRUSH ME, CRUMBLING ME INTO PIECES? OR, ARE WE JUST GETTING EXHAUSTED BECAUSE OUR LOVE CANNOT BE WHOLE?

WE BUY USED BOOKS
DON'T YOU HAVE MANHWA?
WE HAVE SOME RIGHT HERE.
DID YOU PICK OUT EVERYTHING YOU WANTED?
NO~, I CAN'T FIND WHAT I M LOOKING FOR.

WHAT'RE YOU LOOKING FOR?
A BOOK MY MOM BOUGHT FOR ME WHEN I WAS A KID.
WHAT IS IT? WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BUY THAT?
BECAUSE I WANT TO GIVE IT TO YOU.
I DON'T LIKE BOOKS!
DON'T YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SAID? THAT "AN INVESTMENT IN KNOWLEDGE ALWAYS PAYS THE BEST INTEREST?"
Hee~
I'VE LEARNED LOTS FROM READING MANHWA. THIS IS ALL I NEED.

**BAPP!**

**BAPP!**

**BAPP!**

**BAPP!**

UNDER THE BRIGHT FLORESCENT LIGHT THAT REFLECTED WHITE AND BENT IN BETWEEN THE BOOKSHELVES, OUR FEELINGS FLICKERED AS IF THEY WOULD SCATTER.

AT THAT MOMENT, THE LIGHT MADE ITS WAY BETWEEN THE BOOKS LIKE A PIECE OF PAPER, PRESSING OUR EXISTENCES TOGETHER IN SMALL PILES...

AS IF TO FORGET THE ANXIETY OF PAIN, DAI'S HEART AND MY OWN BECAME FILLED TO THE BRIM.

JAEHEE!
WHY DO YOU HAVE A FEVER ALL OF A SUDDEN?!
I'M FINE. IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL.
!
THIS DOESN'T LOOK GOOD--LET'S GO TO THE HOSPITAL!
FORGET IT. I ALREADY TOLD YOU I WAS FINE!

BUT YOU'RE SICK! IF YOU KEEP GOING LIKE THIS, SOMETHING'S GONNA GO WRONG!
LET GO!
I SAID FORGET IT! I DON'T WANNA GO TO THE HOSPITAL! I WON'T GO, EVEN IF I END UP DYING!
LEMME TAKE A LOOK!
YOUR WOUND... IT'S INFECTED.

YOU BASTARD! WHAT, YOU TRYING TO KILL YOURSELF?!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "KILL MYSELF?!" I'M NOT GONNA DIE JUST 'CAUSE OF SOME STUPID CUT!
THE HELL ARE YOU, CRAZY?! WAIT HERE— I'LL GO TO THE ER TO GET HELP.
DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME.
THERE'S NO HOSPITAL IN THIS HICK TOWN EVEN BIG ENOUGH TO HAVE AN ER.

JUST STAY NEXT TO ME.
DON'T YOU FEEL BAD EVEN WASTING A MINUTE THAT WE COULD BE SIDE BY SIDE?
EVEN AFTER BEING IN ALL THOSE FIGHTS, I NEVER GOT HURT LIKE THAT. I'M SAYING, IT WAS NEVER BAD ENOUGH FOR ME TO NEED SERIOUS TREATMENT
I'M NOT LIKE THIS BECAUSE OF THE WOUND. IT'S JUST FROM BEING TOO EXHAUSTED
BESIDES, YOU'RE STRONG

DOES THAT MEAN YOU'LL FEEL ALL FRESH AGAIN ONCE THE FEVER GOES DOWN?
THE FEVER MIGHT MAKE ME PASS OUT.
WHO KNOWS? MAYBE I'LL JUST SPONTANEOUSLY COMBUST, JUST LIKE YOU SAID THAT TIME. I MIGHT BURN UP ALL BY MYSELF AND DISAPPEAR WITHOUT A TRACE.
CRAZYASS!
I'M... PATHETIC, HUH?
I MEAN... WHAT I'VE BECOME.
YOU MUST THINK YOU'RE ATTRACTIVE...
BUT, I JUST LIKE YOU 'CAUSE SOMEBODY'S GOTTA DO IT!

YEAH...
WELL, GUESS I LIKE YOU TOO 'CAUSE SOMEBODY HAS TO
PSH!
SO THEN .. WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HEATHEN?
IT WAS THE SEVENTIETH SUNDAY SINCE THE MAN HAD COME TO THE VILLAGE, AND HE REAPPEARED AT THE SQUARE-- THIS TIME, WITH BOTH HIS LEGS GONE.
HE SAT IN A CHAIR AND BEGAN TO DANCE LIKE A CAGED BIRD SET FREE... MOVING HIS TWO ARMS, TWO HANDS, AND ALL TEN FINGERS. THAT DANCE, TOO, CAPTIVATED THE HEARTS OF THE VILLAGERS.

WHEN TALES OF THIS NEW DANCE FOUND THEIR WAY TO EVERYONE'S LIPS THE JEALOUS RULER THEN SENT HIS MEN TO CUT OFF THE DANCING MAN'S TWO ARMS. THE VILLAGERS FELT LOST...CRUSHED THAT THEY WOULD NEVER SEE HIS DANCE AGAIN.
BUT IT DID NOT MATTER, FOR THE MAN REAPPEARED AT THE SQUARE ON THE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH SUNDAY EVERYONE'S BREATH STOPPED SHORT...AND THEY WATCHED HIM. THE MAN THEN BEGAN TO DANCE WITH HIS NECK, GRACEFULLY ROLLING IT FROM SIDE TO SIDE
ULTIMATELY THE JEALOUS RULER HAD HIS MEN SLASH THE DANCER'S NECK. THE VILLAGERS WHO STOOD AND WATCHED AS HIS NECK ROLLED ACROSS THE GROUND CRIED OUT IN SHOCK.
BUT WHAT WAS MORE SHOCKING THAN THAT WAS
THAT THE MAN CONTINUED TO DANCE-- THIS TIME WITH HIS EYES HE FLUTTERED HIS EYELIDS OPENING AND CLOSING THEM CHANGING RHYTHMS.
BUT THE DANCE DID NOT LAST LONG THE MAN WAS SLOWLY DYING SHEDDING TEARS OF BLOOD YET...

EVEN THOUGH THE DANCER'S BODY VANISHED FROM THIS WORLD... HIS DANCE CONTINUED LONG AFTER HIS DEATH, THROUGH STORIES THAT ESCAPED THE VILLAGERS' LIPS. HIS LEGEND HAS LIVED ON THROUGH WORD OF MOUTH.
EVEN TO YOU AND ME, LIKE THIS...
SO, WHAT HAPPENED TO THE KING AND THE VILLAGERS?
THAT'S NOT THE POINT. BUT...
NO MATTER HOW HARD THE TRIALS THAT LIFE LAYS BEFORE US, AND HOWEVER MUCH WE GET HURT OR DISCOURAGED ..
WE...
ARE GONNA DANCE TO THE END!

WE... ARE GONNA
DANCE TO THE END,
NO MATTER WHAT
HAPPENS!

DID YOUR FEVER BREAK?
I JUST ASKED WHAT TIME IT WAS.
WHAT TIME IS IT NOW, DAD?
HUH?
I DON'T KNOW. LOOKS LIKE THE SUN'S COMIN' UP SOON.
I... HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK YOU.
A FAVOR?
I WANNA SEE THE OCEAN.
IT'S NOT TOO FAR FROM HERE.

THEN PROMISE ME
PROMISE YOU WHAT?
AFTER WE GO SEE THE OCEAN... WE'LL GO TO THE HOSPITAL.
OKAY.
YOU THINK YOU CAN RIDE THE BIKE?
YEAH.
FORGET IT. JUST GET ON MY BACK.

HAFF
HAFF
HAFF
JUST HOLD ON A LITTLE LONGER! WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
I SAID I WAS FINE, SLOW DOWN!

WHY DID YOU COME TO THE OCEAN?

WAS WHAT WE WERE ASKED BY THE EARLY MORNING OCEAN THAT HAD YET TO UNDRESS THE DARKNESS.

IT TRIED TO EMBRACE LIFE AND TO EMBRACE OUR LIVES WITH ITS WAVES... WITH ITS WINDS...

I LEANED AGAINST DAI AND SUNK TO THE GROUND.

MY BODY FELT CUMBERSOME BUT THE SNOW FELL SOFTLY AROUND US IN NO TIME.

THE WHITE SNOW SO LIGHT AND AIRY
THAT THE FLAKES TRANSFORMED INTO FEATHERS

AT THAT MOMENT THE TEARS
I SHED FOR DAI FELT HEAVY

I THEN THOUGHT OF HOW NICE IT WOULD BE
IF THE FEELINGS OF LOSS OR SADNESS COULD
FLOAT AWAY LIKE THOSE SOFT FEATHERS.

AND THEN
I CLOSED MY EYES GENTLY NEXT TO DAI
FORGETTING EVEN MY THROBBING PAIN

JAEHEE!
JAEHEE!
GET UP!
해광병원
HAEKWANG CLINIC
WHAT DO YOU MEAN HE COULD DIE?!
JAEHEE, OPEN YOUR EYES!
IT APPEARS THAT HE HAS TETANUS AND IT'S SPREADING.
CONSIDERING HIS CONDITION, HE MUST HAVE BEEN IN A GREAT DEAL OF PAIN.
IF THINGS GO WRONG HE MAY LOSE ALL FUCTION IN HIS NERVES. THAT'S WHY TWITCHING HAS ALREADY BEGUN.

AT THIS RATE, HE MAY EXPERIENCE RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS WHICH MAY BE FATAL.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
TO BE PROPERLY TREATED, HE MUST GO TO A LARGER HOSPITAL. OUR FACILITIES ARE INADEQUATE TO HANDLE A PATIENT IN SUCH SEVERE CONDITION.
YOU WILL HAVE TO GO INTO THE CITY.

HURRY UP, MISTER! THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!
KIA MO
OH... RIGHT...
JAEHEE, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
IF YOU'RE IN PAIN, JUST LET OUT A GROAN, OR AT LEAST TRY AND GO APE SHIT
YEAH...
DON'T TRY AND HOLD IT ALL IN, LIKE SOME LAME-ASS JERK.

WHEN I FIRST MET YOU... YOU WERE THE ONLY BASTARD WHO DIDN'T EVEN FLINCH WHEN I BEAT HIM UP.
YOU... YOU'RE A REAL THICK HEADED PUNK.
JAEHEE.
JAEHEE.
I... I'M NOT GONNA DIE, SO JUST... LET ME BE...

VIEW 28.
THE SPELL I PUT ON YOU
YOU KNOW WHAT...
I THOUGHT I'D EXPERIENCED DEATH ON THE TRAIN TRACKS THAT DAY...
IN MY ARROGANCE I THOUGHT I KNEW WHAT LIFE REALLY WAS, EVEN AT MY YOUNG AGE.
BUT, DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS ABOUT LIFE?
버스 BUS

HOW CAN YOU POSSIBLY KNOW, UNLESS YOU LIVE WHILE IMMERSED IN YOUR FEELINGS?

TO LIVE A LIFE WITHOUT ANY EMOTIONS...

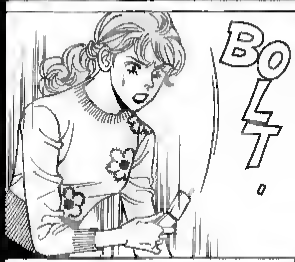
CAN YOU TRULY CALL THAT LIVING?

...WHEN MY EMOTIONS MORPHED INTO PASSION, MY LIFE FELT AS IF IT HAD FINALLY TAKEN ITS FIRST BREATH

THAT'S WHY...

**I'M GOING TO DANCE TO THE END, WITHOUT STOPPING, JUST LIKE YOU SAID.**

**...I'M GONNA DANCE WITHOUT STOPPING!**

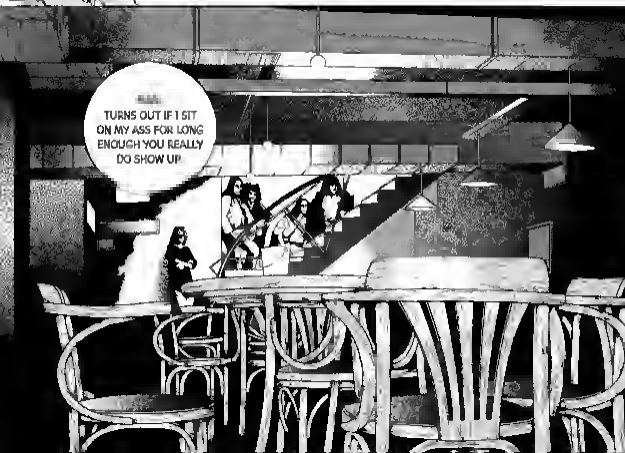


JAEHEE!
JAEHEE!
PLEASE BE OKAY!
PLEASE BE OKAY!
I'LL DIE IF I LOSE
YOU JAEHEE
YOUR MOM
CAN'T LIVE ON!
EVERY DAY I'VE PRACTICED
HOW TO SAY FAREWELL TO YOU
THE BOY WHO'S BEEN FLYING AWAY
FROM MY EMBRACE
BUT I DON'T WANT A FAREWELL LIKE THAT
APPROACHES OUT OF NOWHERE LIKE THIS
MY HEART'S ABOUT TO EXPLODE
THIS IS NOT A GOODBYE BUT
A TORTUROUS NIGHTMARE
GO JAEHEE,
PLEASE BE STRONG!
FOR YOUR MOM
PLEASE BE
STRONG!
JAEHEE YOO?
YES, I'M
JAEHEE YOO'S
GUARDIAN.

RIGHT THIS WAY, PLEASE.
THE DOCTOR WILL BE HERE SOON.
털썩
PLOP
M...MOM.
I LOVE YOU MY SON
YOU'RE OKAY! YOU'RE FINE!

ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?
YES... WE HAD NOT INITIALLY FOUND THIS, BUT IT APPEARS SHE HAS A MINUTE FRACTURE IN HER EYE SOCKET.
SHE COMPLAINED ABOUT THE PAIN IN HER EYES AFTER HER STUDENTS HAD LEFT.
HOW SERIOUS IS HER CONDITION?
THESE ARE THE RESULTS FROM THE MRI.
UNGH...!
HER SIGHT IS IRREPARABLY DAMAGED.
PERMANENT VISION IMPAIRMENT?!

IT IS CAUSED BY AN ABRUPT INTERNAL PRESSURE IN THE EYE SOCKETS...
.....
TO PUT IT IN SIMPLER TERMS...


TURNS OUT IF I SIT ON MY ASS FOR LONG ENOUGH YOU REALLY DO SHOW UP.

WHY THE HELL IS THIS PLACE SUCH A SHITHOLE? NOBODY'S HERE, AND YOU DIDN'T EVEN BOTHER TO TURN ON YOUR SIGN.
YEAH~, YOOI SAID I SHOULDN'T OPEN THIS DOOR FOR THE TIME BEING.
I DUNNO WHY, BUT THAT'S WHAT HE TOLD ME ON THE PHONE TODAY.
I WAS ABOUT TO CALL A FRIEND TO GO GRAB A DRINK, 'CAUSE I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE JUST HEADING BACK HOME.
OH... HE SAID THAT THE COPS MIGHT COME TO INVESTIGATE SOME SHIT ON US.
INVESTIGATE? WHAT FOR?
WINE
FUCK SHOULD I KNOW?
ANYWAY, I'VE MISSED YOU, DAI.

I AIN'T SEEN YOU IN AGES, BUT THE LOOK ON YOUR FACE IS ALL JACKED UP.
JUST OPEN UP AND TALK TO YOUR MASTER OVER HERE.
NUMBER ONE!
HOW COME YOUR HAIRSTYLE NEVER CHANGES?
NUMBER TWO!
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS SIT ON YOUR ASS HERE, ALL THE DAMN TIME?
NUMBER THREE! WHY DO YOU LOOK MORE AND MORE LIKE A CHICK, EVERY DAY?
STOP TALKING SHIT AND CHANGING THE SUBJECTS, AND JUST TELL ME WHAT'S GOIN' ON!
EVEN IF YOU BETRAY ME, I'LL ALWAYS BE ON YOUR SIDE.

I FEEL LIKE I'M NOT MYSELF 'CAUSE I'M IN LOVE.
THAT'S WHAT'S DRIVING ME NUTS.
SHIT! DAMN IT!
I KNEW IT... IT'S THE BASTARD FROM THAT TIME, RIGHT?
I NEVER KNEW UNTIL I MET HIM...
WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO HURT SOMEONE.
I WONDER IF IT WAS A PAIN IN THE ASS FOR HIM, TOO-- THE HURT HE FELT THAT TIME HE STABBED ME

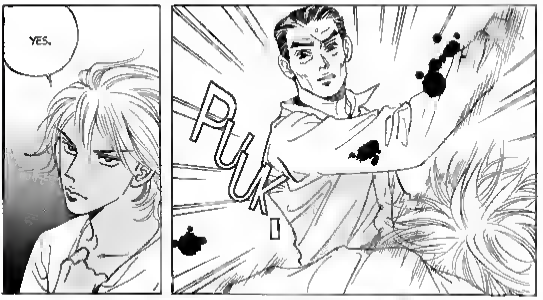
EVEN WHEN MY FATHER CRUSHED ME UNDER HIS RULE, I DIDN'T FEEL THIS SMALL...
BAP!
WHAT? HOW DID THIS ENVELOPE APPEAR FROM OUT OF THE BLUE?
OH... THAT...

I ASKED WHAT IT WAS!
IT'S NOTHING.
STARVING CHILDREN'S AID ORGANIZATION?
YES, I STARTED IT BECAUSE OF THAT CRANCELA WOMAN. I ONLY REGRET NOT STARTING IT SOONER.
I'VE LEARNED SOMETHING VERY VALUABLE FROM HER. AND OF COURSE, THE WORK BRINGS ME GREAT PERSONAL SATISFACTION
GOOD THINKING. YOU SHOULD KEEP DOING SUCH CHARITABLE THINGS.
ANYWAY, WHERE IS THAT PUNK DA!? HE'S NOT IN HIS ROOM.
OH? I SAW HIM WALK INTO HIS ROOM A LITTLE WHILE AGO..
HE MUST BE AT HIS GRANDMOTHER'S ANNEX, AGAIN.

VROOM
H-HONEY... PLEASE...

DUNG!
YOU TWO--
STAY OUTSIDE!

LET ME JUST ASK YOU ONE THING—
WERE YOU INVOLVED IN ALL OF THAT VIOLENCE THAT HAPPENED AT THE SCHOOL?


YES.
PUK

LEAVE IMMEDIATELY! I'VE PREPARED EVERYTHING. YOU'LL GO AWAY TO AMERICA!
THE INCIDENT GOT SO OUT OF CONTROL THAT THEY MAY DISPATCH AN INVESTIGATIONS TEAM TO YOUR SCHOOL.
THERE'S A LIMIT TO HOW MUCH I CAN PROTECT YOU.

I'M. NOT. GOING.
GET THE HELL OUT! I DON'T KNOW WHY FATE DECIDED TO CURSE ME, BRINGING US TOGETHER AS FATHER AND SON.
YOU'RE THE VERY DEFINITION OF AN ACHILLES HEEL. THERE ARE MEN OUT THERE, WHO WILL GO TO ANY LENGTHS TO DESTROY ME, WHO'D SHAKE ME UPSIDE DOWN FOR EVEN THE CHANGE FROM MY POCKETS-- AND YOU STILL INSIST ON BLOWING MY LIFE APART LIKE AN ATOMIC BOMB.
AS I SAID, EVERYTHING IS PERFECTLY PREPARED. YOU'LL STAY IN AMERICA-- COME BACK WHEN THINGS QUIET DOWN!
THERE'S NO TIME, SO YOU'LL LEAVE RIGHT AWAY!
YOU'LL GO IF I TELL YOU TO! HOW DARE YOU DISOBEY ME?!
I WON'T GO! I CAN'T!
EVEN IF THAT MEANS I HAVE TO DIE RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW, I'M NOT GOING!
I CAN'T LEAVE!

IF YOU SEE A STUMBLING BLOCK IN YOUR LIFE, THEN JUST KICK IT FAR OUT OF YOUR WAY! JUST KICK ME OUTTA YOUR WAY!
I'M NOT ONE OF YOUR POSSESSIONS!
YOU BASTARD--!
DON'T EVEN THINK ABOUT BRINGING ME BACK INTO YOUR LIFE--. THEN I'LL LEAVE FOR GOOD.
!
YOU-- STOP!
I WOULDN'T -- 'CAUSE WHEN IT COMES TO VIOLENCE, I'M ON ANOTHER LEVEL.

I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE IN A BIND, BUT I CAN'T GO IN AMERICA NOW. EVEN IF I DIE.
I'VE GOT THINGS THAT I NEED TO HOLD AND PROTECT, TOO.
FOOLISH PUNK! AND IF YOU HAD TO BE HERE, THEN WHY DID YOU LAY A HAND ON THAT WOMAN, THAT NICE TEACHER OF YOURS?!
IF YOU HADN'T BEEN INVOLVED IN THAT INCIDENT, I WOULDN'T GIVE A DAMN WHERE YOU WERE-- HERE, AMERICA, ITALY-- I COULDN'T CARE LESS!
ARE YOU EVEN AWARE THAT YOUR VICE PRINCIPAL IS STILL SUFFERING TRAUMA FROM WHAT HAPPENED?! AND THAT THE POLICE ARE THINKING ABOUT SENDING AN INVESTIGATIONS TEAM TO YOUR SCHOOL?
AND WHOSE IDEA WAS THAT-- THE OBNOXIOUS TEACHER'S? OR THE SLEAZY VICE PRINCIPAL'S?
WHY DO YOU TALK ABOUT YOUR TEACHERS THAT WAY?
IS EVERYONE REALLY SO TWISTED IN YOUR EYES?
DO YOU EVEN KNOW THE REAL TRUTH ABOUT THAT CRANCELA WOMAN?
SHE'S FULL OF SHIT. SHE'S THE EXPERT ON DOING UNDER THE TABLE DEALS WITH PARENTS- SAME AS THAT SCUMBAG VICE PRINCIPAL.

WELL THANKS TO THAT TEACHER, YOUR MOTHER OPENED HER EYES TO HELPING OTHERS.
DIDN'T YOU EVEN KNOW THAT THOSE ENVELOPES WERE FOR CHILDREN'S AID?
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
PATHETIC FOOL... YOU BASTARD. YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE AN OUNCE OF HUMAN WARMTH INSIDE OF YOU.
BECAUSE OF THAT VIOLENCE, SHE'S ON THE VERGE OF PERMANENTLY LOSING HER VISION!

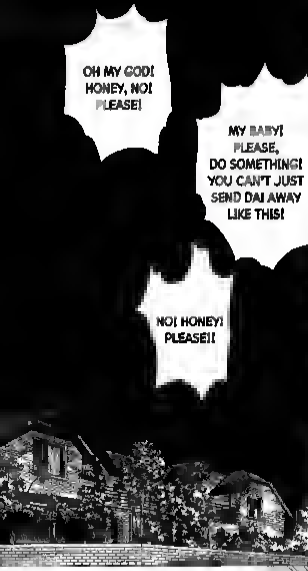
HOW WILL YOU HANDLE THE SHOCK, IF WORD OF THE INCIDENT GETS OUT?! CRANGELA'S LOST HER SIGHT AND THE INVESTIGATIONS ARE GOING TO START AT ANY MOMENT!
DON'T YOU EVEN KNOW THE CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS...
WHY IS IT THAT A KIND, GOOD TEACHER LIKE HER HAD TO GET DESTROYED BY THE LIKES OF A FAILURE LIKE YOU?
THE SITUATION CALLS FOR ME TO TAKE CHARGE OF IMPORTANT NATIONAL MATTERS... AND YET, HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO EXPLAIN OR JUSTIFY THAT MY OWN SON IS THE ONE TO HAVE INSPIRED MORAL SHOCK IN SO MANY PEOPLE?
I'VE DEVOTED MY ENTIRE LIFE TO CLIMBING UP TO THIS POSITION, AND I HAVE TO CONTINUE TO GO UP FROM HERE. I WILL NOT FALL DOWN BECAUSE OF YOU.
DON'T YOU WORRY! I DIDN'T EVEN LIFT A FINGER.
SO I WON'T GET IN TROUBLE AND I WON'T GO TO AMERICA.

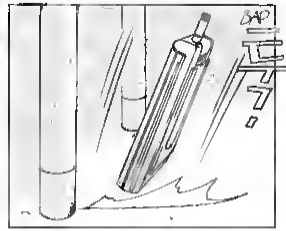
NO! YOU HAVE TO LEAVE RIGHT NOW!
YOU SIMPLY CANNOT UNDERSTAND MY WORK!
WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO ME IS A PRIVATE LIFE, WITHOUT ANY SCANDALS!
YOU'RE SYMPATHIZING WITH THAT CRANGELA BITCH, AND NOW YOU'RE BACK TO YOUR TRUE SELF.
IF THERE'S A CREATOR, I LIKE TO TELL HIM THAT HE'S MADE TWO MISTAKES IN MY LIFE.
THE FIRST WAS BEING BORN TO A FATHER WHO DOESN'T KNOW WHEN TO RETREAT.
AND THE OTHER IS NOT HAVING ACCEPTED THE PEOPLE WHO APPROACED ME.
BRRING

I AM OKAY
I MISS YOU
!
HEY!
GET HIM!

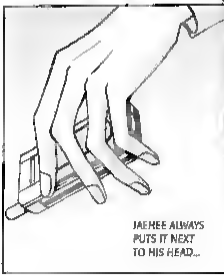
TRANSPORT HIM AWAY IMMEDIATELY.
MAKE SURE YOU DON'T BACK OUT ON THIS, NO MATTER WHAT.
AND AS WE PLANNED, YOU BRING HIM TO AMERICA AND FINISH YOUR DUTIES BEFORE YOU RETURN.
YES SIR!
. . . .
YOU BETTER LISTEN...
I'LL...

NEVER COME BACK,
FOR AS LONG AS I LIVE.


OH MY GOD! HONEY, NO! PLEASE!
MY BABY! PLEASE, DO SOMETHING! YOU CAN'T JUST SEND DAI AWAY LIKE THIS!
NO! HONEY! PLEASE!!


BAP
쿵!

WHY'D HIS PHONE FALL?

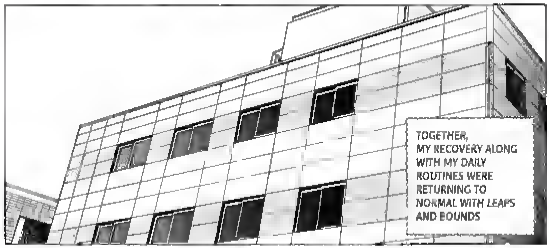

JAEHEE ALWAYS PUTS IT NEXT TO HIS HEAD...

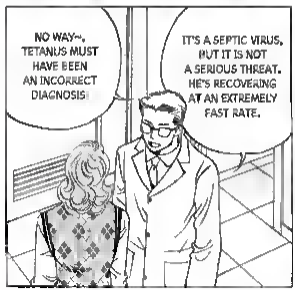
MAN, DOES THAT MEAN ALL THE RUMORS ABOUT THE BEAT DOWN ARE TRUE? Y'KNOW, THE SCHOOL'S IN A HOT MESS 'CAUSE OF THIS.
I HEAR SHE WON'T EVEN OPEN HER MOUTH TO THE INVESTIGATIONS TEAM-- WON'T TELL ANYONE A THING , BUT KEEPS BEGGIN' THEM TO NOT GO THROUGH WITH THE INVESTIGATION!
DIDJA GUYS HEAR? MISS CRANGELA LOST HER SIGHT!
ALL THE CORRUPTED SHIT THAT THE VICE PRINCIPAL DID GOT OUTED, SO THE BOARD DIRECTOR AND THE PTA ARE GOIN CRAZY
WHERE'S THE FUN IN COMIN' TO SCHOOL IF MISS CRANGELA'S NOT HERE?
TELL ME ABOUT IT. MAN~, TODAY'S THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL, BUT IT FEELS LIKE SUCH A LET DOWN.
I M SORRY TO HAVE TO RELAY SUCH UNFORTUNATE NEWS TO YOU TODAY...

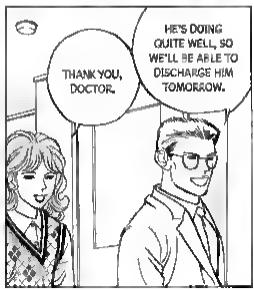
MS. JIN IS A PERSON WHO HAS ALWAYS FELT THAT EDUCATION WAS HER CALLING
SHE ALSO EXERCISED THE TRUE MEANING OF BEING AN EDUCATOR BY ACTIVELY SUPPORTING HER STUDENTS AND STANDING BY THEIR SIDES...
MS. JIN'S SCHOOL IS EXPLORING WAYS FOR HER TO CONTINUE TEACHING AND GUIDING STUDENTS.
REGRETTABLY, IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR HER TO CONTINUE TEACHING AT THIS SCHOOL. BUT SHE'LL ALWAYS BE CONCERNED FOR HER STUDENTS HERE, AND YOU'LL FEEL THAT SHE'S RIGHT NEXT TO YOU.
NOW IS THE TIME FOR YOU KIDS TO RETURN YOUR GRATITUDE AND LOVE TO HER.
SHE WILL HAVE TO... GO THROUGH A GREAT DEAL BEFORE SHE GETS USED TO NOT BEING ABLE TO SEE.
SO... WE NEED YOU ALL TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP HER.

DON'T YOU THINK IT'LL BE POSSIBLE IF WE ALL TAKE TURNS AND SET ASIDE A LITTLE TIME FOR HER?
...
I WILL!
WHAT WON'T I DO FOR THAT ANGELIC TEACH OF OURS? HAHA!
AIN'T IT THE TRUTH, DUDES?!
I'LL BE THERE EVEN IF IT TAKES THE WHOLE DAMN DAY!
I... I'LL DO IT TOO.
CLATTER
ME TOO!
I'LL CHIP IN!
I WANNA HELP!

I'LL COME TOO!
ME TOO!
COUNT ME IN!
THANKS, KIDS! THANKS.
I'M THERE FO' SURE!


TOGETHER, MY RECOVERY ALONG WITH MY DAILY ROUTINES WERE RETURNING TO NORMAL WITH LEAPS AND BOUNDS


NO WAY~, TETANUS MUST HAVE BEEN AN INCORRECT DIAGNOSIS!
IT'S A SEPTIC VIRUS, BUT IT IS NOT A SERIOUS THREAT. HE'S RECOVERING AT AN EXTREMELY FAST RATE.


THANK YOU, DOCTOR.
HE'S DOING QUITE WELL, SO WE'LL BE ABLE TO DISCHARGE HIM TOMORROW.

MOM DIDN'T ASK ME ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT MY WOUND
THE INCIDENT MUST HAVE LEFT A GASH IN HER HEART AS BIG AS THE WOUND ITSELF
EVERY TIME I REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS...
I TEXTED DA!
...BUT HE NEVER RESPONDED
ENERGY ESCAPED FROM MY TIGHT GRIP AS THOUGH FROM A FIST GRASPING A HANDFUL OF SAND.
AND A FEVER CALLED LONGING BOARED INTO MY EYES, SO QUIETLY IT EVEN MADE ME UNABLE TO FEEL THE ANXIETY
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE GOTTEN TO SPEND SO MUCH ALONE TIME WITH YOU SINCE YOUR DAD PASSED AWAY.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
OH! IT'S SNOWING!

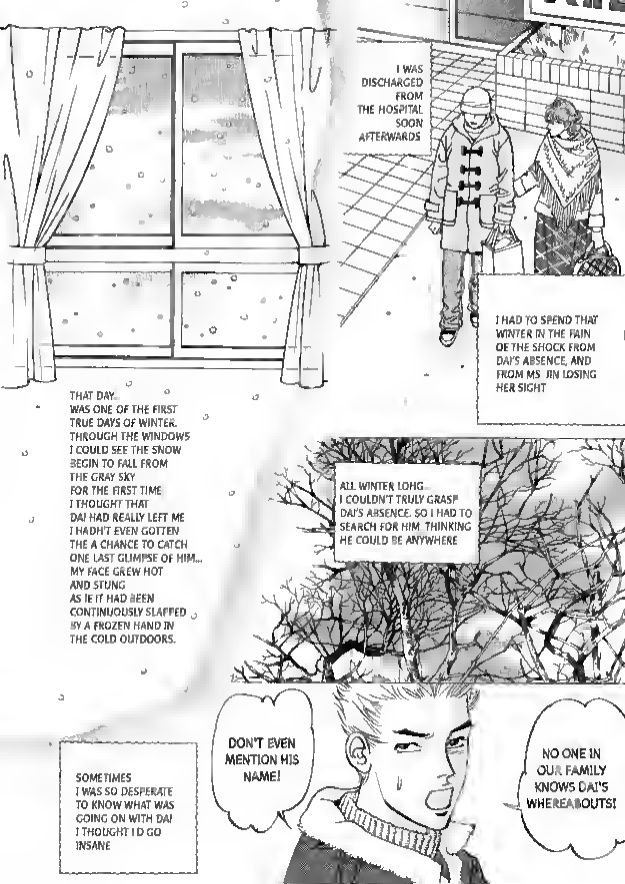
YOU KNOW THAT TIME... HOW THOSE FLOWER PETALS FELL DOWN FROM THE SKY LIKE DROPS OF SNOW?
I MEAN, WHEN I WAS IN THE HOSPITAL.
YOU REMEMBER, RIGHT?
I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A THING, REALLY. I BET EVERYBODY WHO SAW IT WAS SHOCKED.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRY SO HARD TO BRING DAI INTO THE CONVERSATION, MOM.
IF YOU'RE CURIOUS ABOUT SOMETHING, YOU COULD JUST ASK ME
WHY HAD YOU BEEN BEARING SO MUCH PAIN, UP UNTIL YOUR CONDITION GOT THIS BAD?

I JUST... WANTED TO STAY WITH HIM A LITTLE LONGER.
WHY?
I'D FINALLY TASTED FREEDOM.
IT'S NOT FREEDOM,
IF YOU'VE ONLY FREED YOURSELF FROM SHACKLES.
EVEN IF I'M WRONG, NOTHING CAN BE DONE.
I CAN'T GO BACK TO THE WAY I USED TO BE.

YOU WON'T NEED TO GO BACK.
WATCHING YOU SUFFER ALL THIS TIME, I'VE BEEN CONTEMPLATING A WAY FOR ME TO UNDERSTAND YOU.
I THINK I'VE GROWN A BIT IN THE PROCESS,
GROWN ENOUGH TO SEND YOU OFF AND NOT CRY...
BUT, WHEREVER YOU GO...
NO MATTER HOW FAR YOU MAY BE FROM ME... AND EVEN IF YOU BE TIRED, TORTURED AND EXHAUSTED FROM YOUR PATH IN LIFE...
YOU'LL BE REJUVENATED AGAIN WHEN YOU FEEL THAT SOMEWHERE IN THIS WORLD, YOUR MOM IS STILL DEVOTEDLY WAITING FOR YOU.

I'M NEVER GONNA SAY GOODBYE TO YOU, MOM.
NOTHING WILL EVER MAKE ME LEAVE YOUR SIDE COMPLETELY.
NARU, YOU'RE HERE!
HELLO, MRS. YOO.
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL AS EVER!
YOU LITTLE...! YOU'RE TOO LITTLE TO BE USING SUCH SLEAZY PICKUP LINES!
ACK! I'M ALREADY THROUGH PUBERTY-- I'M NOT EVEN HORMONAL ANYMORE!
THWOP

WHAT?! MS. JIN LOST HER EYESIGHT?!
I'M NOT SURE, BUT I THINK IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH DAL.
HAVE YOU BEEN IN TOUCH WITH HIM RECENTLY?
AH.. AH.. THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED..
N...NO.
RUMORS ARE RUNNING RAMPANT THAT DAI'S DAD IS GONNA RUN FOR PRESIDENT SUPPOSEDLY, HE HAS SOME SERIOUS PULL IN THE POLITICAL SCENE.
I CAN'T BELIEVE MS. JIN LOST HER SIGHT..
I GET IT NOW I KNOW WHY I CAN'T GET A HOLD OF DAI..!

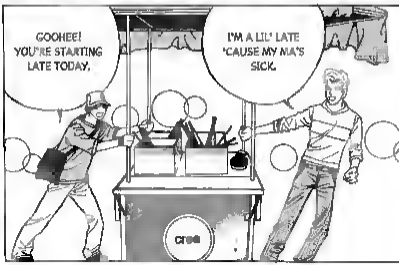

I WAS DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL SOON AFTERWARDS
I HAD TO SPEND THAT WINTER IN THE PAIN OF THE SHOCK FROM DAI'S ABSENCE, AND FROM MS. JIN LOSING HER SIGHT
THAT DAY... WAS ONE OF THE FIRST TRUE DAYS OF WINTER. THROUGH THE WINDOWS I COULD SEE THE SNOW BEGIN TO FALL FROM THE GRAY SKY FOR THE FIRST TIME I THOUGHT THAT DAI HAD REALLY LEFT ME I HADN'T EVEN GOTTEN THE A CHANCE TO CATCH ONE LAST GLIMPSE OF HIM... MY FACE GREW HOT AND STUNG AS IF IT HAD BEEN CONTINUOUSLY SLAPPED BY A FROZEN HAND IN THE COLD OUTDOORS.
ALL WINTER LONG... I COULDN'T TRULY GRASP DAI'S ABSENCE. SO I HAD TO SEARCH FOR HIM, THINKING HE COULD BE ANYWHERE
SOMETIMES I WAS SO DESPERATE TO KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON WITH DAI I THOUGHT I'D GO INSANE
DON'T EVEN MENTION HIS NAME!
NO ONE IN OUR FAMILY KNOWS DAI'S WHEREABOUTS!

I HEARD THOSE KINDS OF ANSWERS EVERY TIME BUT I STILL COULDN'T UNDERSTAND THEM.
THINGS COME AND GO, SO JUST SNAP OUT OF IT ALREADY. YOU MORON! HOW MANY MORE TIMES AM I GONNA HAVE TO PUT UP WITH YOU?!
THINGS COME AND GO... THAT THOUGHT WAS EVEN MORE UNPLEASANT THAN YOO'S HARSH WORDS
WHILE MY FRIENDS WERE FOCUSED ON PLANNING WISE FUTURES FOR THEMSELVES, ALL I COULD DO WAS LOOK FOR DAI... DAY AFTER DAY AND EVEN AT THAT MOMENT
I OFTEN VISITED THE CABIN WHERE DAI AND I HAD STAYED
THE DOORS WERE ALWAYS COMPLETELY LOCKED BUT EVERY TIME I STOOD IN FRONT OF THAT CABIN I FELT AS IF HE'D BE INSIDE
THAT'S HOW I HAD TO SPEND A SUMMER AND ANOTHER WINTER

I WENT TO ALL THE PLACES WHERE DAI AND I HAD SPENT TIME TOGETHER

BUT WHENEVER I RETURNED HOME FROM THOSE PLACES...

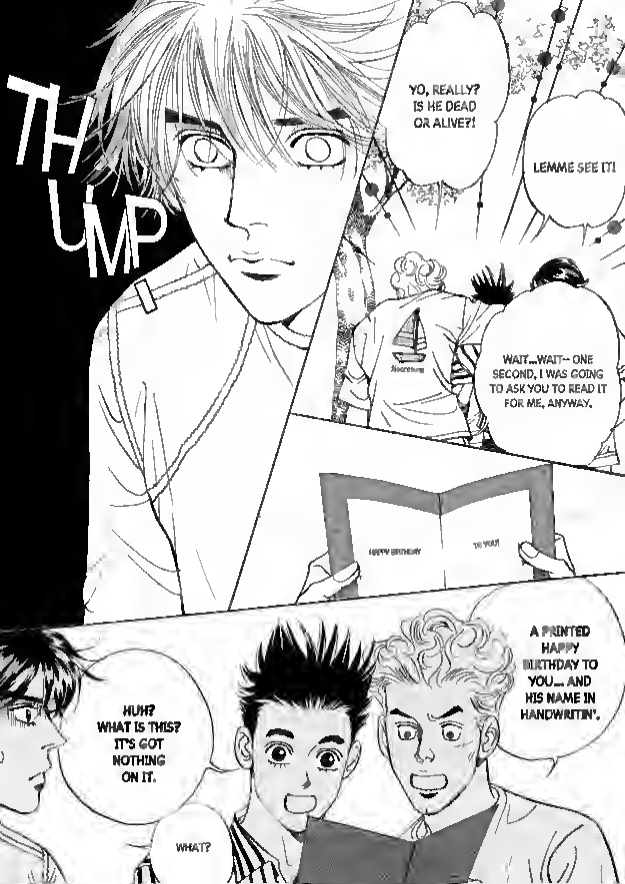
I WAS ACCOMPANIED BY WRETCHED LONGING, ENOUGH TO FILL ME WITH GRIEF.



HEY MAN~! JAEHEE, YOU'RE EARLY!
OH, YOU'RE HERE!
AHH~, THAT HIT THE SPOT.
MINE TOO.
I'VE EATEN EVERYWHERE, BUT YOUR NOODLES ARE THE BEST, GOOHEE!
I DIDN'T DO NOTHIN' BUT BOIL THE NOODLES AND DUMP 'EM IN MY MA'S BROTH, YA FOOLS.
STILL, FOR SOME REASON, WHATEVER YOU TOUCH COMES OUT TASTING *UNBELIEVABLE!*
WELL, TRUE DAT-- WE GOT MORE CUSTOMERS, NOW!
WHY DON'T YOU JUMP INTO THE FOOD BUSINESS FULL SCALE?
HAH! YOU DUMBASSES.
YOU TWO GOT MAD FINE TASTE!

ANYWAY, YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN ABOUT TOMORROW, HAVE YOU?
*COURSE NOT!
WELCOME!
YEAH! I THINK YOU'VE REALLY GOT A KNACK FOR THIS, GOOHEE.
WOW~, YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT RUNNING YOUR BUSINESS!
I'LL HAVE AN UDON HERE.
WHY DON'T YOU TRY SOMETHING REAL, OTHER THAN JUST HELPING YOUR MOM?
ACTUALLY, I WAS GONNA DO THAT ANYWAYS.
IT'S TOO QUIET. I GUESS SHE'S IN THE MIDDLE OF A CLASS.
SHE STILL SURE KNOWS HOW TO TEACH.
I HEAR SHE'S ABLE TO SHOW OFF HER TALENTS EVEN MORE AT THIS SPECIAL SCHOOL.

SHE STILL TEACHES WITH A LOT OF PASSION.
SHE WENT THROUGH HELL WHEN SHE LOST HER SIGHT, BUT IT SEEMS LIKE SHE'S OVERCOME IT NOW
MS. JIN, WE'RE HERE! NARU, JAEHEE, AND GOOHEE!
YOU DON'T NEED TO VISIT ME SO OFTEN...
ANYWAY, I HAVE GOOD NEWS.
LOOK... IT'S A CARD FROM DAI.


THUMP
YO, REALLY? IS HE DEAD OR ALIVE?!
LEMME SEE IT!
WAIT...WAIT-- ONE SECOND, I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU TO READ IT FOR ME, ANYWAY.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO YOU!
A PRINTED HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU... AND HIS NAME IN HANDWRITIN'.
HUH? WHAT IS THIS? IT'S GOT NOTHING ON IT.
WHAT?

SHEESH--. THIS JERK TRIES ANY DANG THING IF IT'LL MAKE 'IM STAND OUT!
THIS IS REAL FUNNY! ANYWAY, IS IT YOUR BIRTHDAY, MS. JIN?
IT STILL MAKES ME HAPPY TO KNOW THAT DAI'S THOUGHT OF ME.
IT MUST MEAN... THAT NOW HE THINKS OF ME DIFFERENTLY.
DAI'S BLANK LETTER..
THE CARD FROM DAI THAT I DIDN'T EVEN HAVE
EVEN THOUGH IT HAD NOTHING WRITTEN ON IT I WAS SURE THAT IT WAS A CONFESSION OF HIS CONSCIENCE

HEY! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
LET HIM BE!
THE CHILD
"I CAN'T STAND IT!"
I CRIED AND SCREAMED ON THE INSIDE.
PLEASE JUST COME OUT NOW! COME BACK TO ME
I DON'T NEED ANYTHING. JUST COME BACK TO ME!
COME BACK! COME BACK!

COME BACK!

PLEASE,
COME BACK!

VIEW 29.
YOUR LITTLE PARADISE LOST

SUN

I'D OFTEN STOP MYSELF
WALKING DOWN THE STREET
BECAUSE I WOULD DISCOVER DAI

BUT I NEVER
FOLLOWED HIM

IT WAS BECAUSE I KNEW THAT
IF IT WERE REALLY DAI

HE WOULD HAVE FOUND
ME FIRST. EVEN IF I'D BEEN
HIDING AWAY DEEP INSIDE
A FARAWAY PLACE

TIME INEVITABLY PASSED
EVEN WHEN DAI WASN'T
WITH ME.

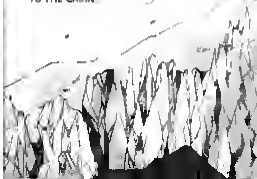
AND THERE WERE TIMES,
NOW AND THEN
WHEN I DIDN'T EVEN
THINK ABOUT HIM.

AFTER REPEATING
THAT PATTERN FOR QUITE
SOME TIME,
I'D THEN FEEL CRUSHED BY
MY LONGING FOR HIM.

DURING THOSE TIMES,
I WOULD THEN VISIT OUR CABIN.

BY THIS POINT,
I'D BECOME
A COLLEGE STUDENT.

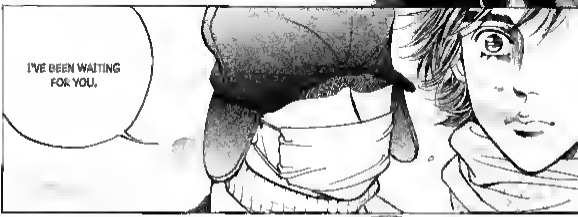
AND, DESPITE THE FACT
I'D BEEN THERE SO MANY TIMES,
WHENEVER I WALKED UP
THE PATH THAT LEAD ME
TO THE CABIN...

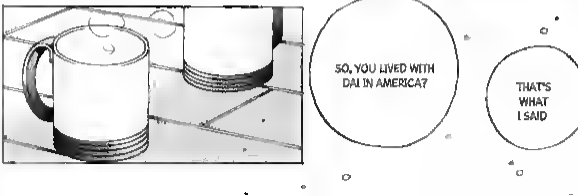


IT NEVER FAILED TO MAKE MY HEART JUMP
DAI! HOW ARE YOU? I MISS YOU...

I LOVE YOU.
THERE IS SOMEONE IN THERE!
SOMEONE..
IT CAN'T BE.

WAM
DAI!
DAI...
C'MON IN.


I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.


SO, YOU LIVED WITH DAI IN AMERICA?
THAT'S WHAT I SAID

STOP MAKING THAT FACE. IT'S CHOKING 'CAUSE YOU'RE THROWING OUT TOO MANY QUESTIONS AT ONCE.
STAY THE NIGHT, AND WE CAN TALK SLOWLY... IF YOU HAVE THE TIME.
IS...IS HE WELL? COULD YOU PLEASE TELL ME IF YOU'RE IN TOUCH WITH HIM?
THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO FORMAL. I'D RATHER YOU FELT COMFORTABLE AROUND ME.
WE SEEM TO BE ABOUT THE SAME AGE, ANYWAY
WHY...
WHY DID DAI SEVER ALL OF HIS TIES WITH EVERYTHING IN KOREA?
I DON'T KNOW THAT, EITHER. I ONLY GOT TO HEAR ABOUT YOU THE FIRST TIME THAT I THOUGHT DAI AND I HAD BECOME PRETTY CLOSE.
DAI TOLD ME THAT IF I CAME TO THIS PLACE, YOU'D BE HERE.
I GOT HERE A WEEK AGO. IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, MUCH SOONER THAN I THOUGHT YOU'D SHOW UP

ANYWAY, THIS PLACE IS SO NICE AND BIG. ALMOST MAKES ME FEEL BAD IT'S ROTTING AWAY IN SOME HICKSVILLE IN THE MOUNTAINS.
ALTHOUGH, I DID GO THROUGH A LOT TO CLEAN IT UP FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS.
TELL ME ABOUT DAI... PLEASE.
PLEASE. WH...WHY DID HE LEAVE ME?
AND WHY... HASN'T HE CONTACTED ME?
KOFF
DAI FELT VERY SORRY ABOUT SOME TEACHER NAMED CRANGELA.
HE OFTEN TALKED ABOUT HOW HIS CONCEIT MADE HIM SEE THE WORLD ALL CROOKED.
KOFF, KOFF.
I SEE. SO, DAI COULD NEVER FORGET THAT HE OWED MS. CRANGELA FOR THE UNFORGIVEABLE SIN COMMITTED AGAINST HER.
BUT IS THAT WHY?
IS THAT WHY HE'S NOT COMING BACK TO KOREA?

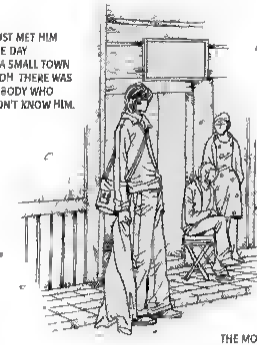
WAS THAT...
SO AGONIZING THAT HE HAD TO END HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH ME?
DAI
IS THAT THE REASON WHY YOU'RE NOT COMING BACK?
KOF KOF
KOF KOF
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I CONTINUOUSLY PONDERED AND THOUGHT ABOUT IT MY DOUBTFUL QUESTIONS CONTINUED
YOU HAVE A PRETTY BAD COUGH.
I ALWAYS GET LIKE THIS, WHENEVER I PULL DOWN MY MASK. I THINK I HAVE ALLERGIES
THE SNOW... SO MUCH IS FALLING IT MAKES ME FEEL SICK.
UM... DO YOU WANT SOME RAMEN? I'M HUNGRY.
THEN, IS IT OKAY IF I EAT IN FRONT OF YOU?
YEAH, SURE.
WHO COULD HE BE? AND WHO IS HE TO DAI?
THAT LOOK, THOSE GESTURES, THAT ARE NEW BUT SOMEHOW FAMILIAR—
ARE THEY LIKE SOMEONE'S THAT I KNOW?
NO. ACTUALLY, I DON'T THINK I COULD KEEP ANYTHING DOWN.

DO YOU KNOW IT?
HUH? DO I KNOW WHAT?
DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?
I MISSED IT FOR A SEC. I WAS DISTRACTED BY SOMETHING ELSE.
I DON'T KNOW WHERE DAI IS RIGHT NOW.
WHAT...
ACTUALLY, I CAME HERE TO MEET HIM.
I WAS THINKING MAYBE...
AH...
THE STRING THAT HAS BEEN UNTIED AGAIN...

YOU'RE PROBABLY DISAPPOINTED... BUT THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO.
DAI HARDLY SPOKE, YOU KNOW.
STILL, HE WOULD GO ON AND ON ABOUT YOU– A LOT. THIS IS JUST MY ASSUMPTION, BUT...
MAYBE... HE TALKED ABOUT YOU WHEN HE FELT HE WAS TRULY ALONE.
NO, ACTUALLY... IT'S NOT THAT HE DIDN'T TALK MUCH. IT'S MORE THAT HE WAS CAREFUL WITH HIS WORDS. AT LEAST, THAT WAS THE IMPRESSION I GOT.
SOMETIMES, HE WOULD CALL OUT YOUR NAME, AS IF HE WERE GROANING.
HE'D RECITE IT SO QUIETLY THAT I ALWAYS HAD TO GO HEAR HIS BED AND PRESS MY EARS CLOSE TO HIM, TO EVEN HEAR WHAT HE WAS SAYING.

AFTER HE FINISHED HIS RAMEN HE DIDN'T STOP MOVING AROUND
HERE AND THERE HE'D BRING UP DAI, AND I'D LISTEN TO HIM
BUT ONE THING FELT STRANGE
THE MORE I TALKED TO HIM, THE MORE I FELT THAT STAYING WITH HIM QUENCHED MY THIRST FOR DAI
IT FELT LIKE THE EMPTINESS AND THE FEELING OF LOSS THAT ALWAYS ECHOED IN THE BACK OF MY HEART BY FORCE OF HABIT...
WAS MELTING AWAY FOR THE FIRST TIME
AREN'T I... A LOT LIKE DAI? THE WAY I TALK AND THE WAY I CARRY MYSELF?
TRUTH IS... I USED TO GET THAT FROM PEOPLE ALL THE TIME. HE INFLUENCED ME A LOT, ESPECIALLY SINCE I LIVED UNDER THE SAME ROOF AS HIM.
HOW DID YOU MEET DAI?

I JUST MET HIM ONE DAY IN A SMALL TOWN SOON THERE WAS NOBODY WHO DIDN'T KNOW HIM.



HE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING ESPECIALLY NICE OR CAUSE ANY TROUBLE BUT EVERYONE CAME TO KNOW WHO HE WAS.

HE WOULD DISAPPEAR WHENEVER HE FELT LIKE IT AND THEN POP UP AGAIN I WOULD ASK HIM WHERE HE'D BEEN BUT ALL I GOT IN RETURN WAS SILENCE.

THE MORE I GOT TO KNOW HIM THE LESS I UNDERSTOOD HIM.

WHEN IMAGES OF DAI LIVING HIS EVERYDAY LIFE FLASHED THROUGH MY MIND MY LONGING FOR HIM POURED OUT FROM DEEP INSIDE ME

MAN, THIS STUPID SHOW JUST DOESN'T KNOW WHEN TO STOP.

YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GO HOME TOMORROW, AT THIS RATE.

I DON'T CARE.

SHOULD WE HAVE A DRINK?

OKAY.

THE FOREST DIDN'T EVEN MAKE A SMALL SOUND, DESPITE HOW HEAVILY THE SNOW FELL.
AS IF THE FOREST'S DESOLATION HAD ENGULFED THE ENTIRE CABIN. WE WERE COMPLETELY SHUT OFF FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD AS WE DRIFTED ABOUT A STRANGE TIME AND SPACE
WE BOTH HAD THIS PERSON NAMED DAI, AND WE SHARED DIFFERENT MEMORIES OF HIM
I WAS ALMOST TOO FOCUSED ON THIS BOY TRYING TO FEEL DAI'S SHADOW AND TRACES IN THE SOFTEST OF HIS SIGHS.
DAI TALKED ABOUT THAT DAY OFTEN. THE SNOWY DAY AT THE OCEAN... WHEN YOU WERE SICK...
HE SAID THAT THE SNOW FELL ONTO THE OCEAN, BUT THAT YOU PROBABLY COULDN'T HAVE NOTICED. HE ALSO SAID THAT IN NO TIME AT ALL, THE SNOW TURNED TO FEATHERS.
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME HE THOUGHT HE'D HAVE BEEN TRULY HAPPY. IF HE COULD HAVE DIED RIGHT THEN AND THERE

I FORGET WHEN, BUT HE TOLD ME THIS STORY, TOO. HE SAID THAT HE JUST TURNED AROUND AND CAME BACK HOME ON HIS WAY TO MEET YOU.
DON'T YOU FIND THAT REALLY STRANGE? THAT KIND OF MIND-SET?
STRANGE... HOW WOULD HE KNOW A STORY THAT WAS SO PERSONAL?
EVEN DAI'S DEEPEST THOUGHTS...
IT WAS TO OVERCOME HOW MUCH HE MISSED YOU. THAT'S WHY HE TURNED AROUND.
I HAD BEEN FEELING THAT SOMETHING WAS STRANGE THIS WHOLE TIME. BUT I DIDN'T PICK IT UP UNTIL NOW. COULD HE BE...
THAT DARK, STRONG LOOKING HAND...
THAT DRY VOICE... THE FAMILIAR BUILD, EVEN UNDER THE THICK LAYER OF CLOTHES WRAPPED AROUND HIS BODY...
WHY DIDN'T I KNOW? WHY HADN'T I REALIZED IT SOONER?

I DID MISS HIM SO MUCH.
I LOST DIRECTION IN MY LIFE...
AND LIVED LIKE AN EMPTY SHELL.
AND YOU I LONGED FOR YOU WITH ALL MY HEART...
YOU'RE DAL, AREN'T YOU?

HOW COULD I POSSIBLY BE DAI? I LOOK SO DIFFERENT FROM HIM.
...I WANNA SEE YOUR EYES.
I CAN'T TELL YOU WHY. BUT THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE.

THEN, IS DAT DEAD?
I DON'T KNOW.

WHY ARE YOU CRYING SO MOURNFULLY?
I DON'T KNOW IT MUST BE... THAT I CAN'T CONTROL IT BECAUSE I'VE HELD IT IN FOR SO LONG.
I... I'VE... BEEN JEALOUS OF YOU FOR A LONG TIME.
'CAUSE I HAD STRONG FEELINGS FOR DAI.

THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE.
IN THE MIDST OF THE CONVERSATION WITH HIM MY FURIOUS EMOTIONS CAUGHT MY BREATH AND I NOTICED THAT MY TEARS HAD STOPPED
I RECITED MY THOUGHTS IN A SELF-DEPRECATING WAY...
YOU'RE... DEFINITELY DAI.
I ALREADY SAID THAT I WASN'T. I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU RE FEELING BUT DON'T LET IT MAKE YOU ALL SENTIMENTAL.
LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING-- WHAT THE HELL IS DAI TO YOU?
EVERYTHING.
YOU SAY THE SAME THINGS AS DAI.

CAN I HOLD YOU FOR A MINUTE?
YOU KNOW WHAT... I'VE GOT SOMETHING SHOCKING TO TELL YOU.
DAI SAID...
THAT ONE YEAR, HE'D LEFT A LETTER FOR YOU. STUCK IT UNDER SOME BENCH AT THE AIRPORT.
HE SAID THAT YOU'D KNOW WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU READ IT.
...

THUMP
WHERE IS IT?
WHERE?!

HERE IT IS!
LUB DUB, LUB DUB
THIS IS HARD TO BELIEVE! HOW COULD IT HAVE STAYED SAFELY STUCK TO THE BENCH FOR YEARS
UNBEARABLE EMOTIONS AND TEARS WELLED UP INSIDE ME EVEN BEFORE I OPENED THE LETTER
I UNFOLDED THE NOTE WITH MY TREMBLING HANDS
IT HAD TRACES OF DAI THAT STOPPED MY HEART WITH A DEEP GRATITUDE AND LONGING

AS IF MY BODY WAS BEING SUCKED INTO IT.
I SAW MYSELF HOLDING ONTO THAT LITTLE PIECE OF PAPER, AND FELT HOT TEARS BURN BEHIND MY EYES.
HIS MESSAGE WAS SCRIBBLED DOWN IN A RUSH IT LOOKED AS IF THE WORDS WOULD WRIGGLE IT TRANSCENDED TIME AND SPACE AND READ IN A WHISPER,
JAEHEE. WHEREVER I AM, FIND ME AND TAKE ME TO WHERE YOU ARE!
--TO MY IMMORTAL LOVE.

I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE NATURE OF MY TEARS...
IF THEY WERE TEARS OF GRATITUDE..
OR TEARS OF PAIN...
OR OF JOY
ALL I KNEW WAS THAT A FLOOD OF TEARS
WAS CASCADING DOWN THROUGH MY BODY
THEN, I ACCEPTED THAT IT WAS MY FATE TO FIND DAI... THE ONE AND ONLY DAI IN THE ENTIRE WIDE WORLD.

*HELP THOSE IN NEED BY DONATING A DIME
MAN--! TRAFFIC'S WAY BAD TODAY!
I WONDER IF IT'S 'CAUSE TODAY'S TEACHER'S DAY.
MS. JIN... I WONDER IF SHE'S GONNA CRY AGAIN WHEN WE DROP BY TODAY.
SHE SAYS HAVIN' US AROUND JUST REMINDS HER OF A LOTTA THINGS.
HONK
HONK

DAMN~, THIS TRAFFIC'S REALLY FREAKIN' BAD, MAN!
YOONEUN!

EUNHYUNG...
ARE YOU OKAY?
YOU'RE DOING WELL UP THERE RIGHT?
I'M DOING WELL, TOO
I THINK
A POCKET
THEIR HEARTS
THE LITTLE PLACE
WE HIDE ALL
OUR SORROWS.

IT IS EVERYONE'S DUTY
TO CLOAK THEMSELVES IN
THE DARKNESS OF DESPAIR.
THEY SAY IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO
REALLY APPRECIATE THE WORLD,
AND TO SEE THINGS IN
A POSITIVE LIGHT.

YOONEUN...
LOOKS LIKE THINGS ARE WORKING OUT
WELL WITH HER AND THAT GUY.

I'M SURE HE'LL EMBRACE EVERYTHING
ABOUT HER...
HER SADNESS, HER GRIEF...

YOU ARE THAT PERSON FOR ME.

IF I EVER GET TO HAVE FEELINGS FOR
SOMEONE...

I'M SURE THAT PERSON
WILL BE YOU
COMING BACK TO ME.

HEY! HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE JAEHEE POUNCED TO AMERICA?
THINK IT'S ALREADY BEEN 5 MONTHS OR SOMETHIN'
IS HE DOIN' WELL?
OF COURSE!
MS. JIN TOLD ME OVER THE PHONE THAT HE'D SENT HER SOME PICTURES.
YEAH... LET'S HURRY UP AND GO CHECK 'EM OUT! I'M GETTIN' MAD CURIOUS NOW.

THE END